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APPLICANT.....

(Signature)

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In its seventy years of existence the N. R. A. has consistently and materially contributed to the National Defense.

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The first Small Arms Training Manual used by the United States Army (reprint of the manual originally prepared for the Militia).

The establishment of the annual National Matches (which have contributed so markedly to the improvement of marksmanship, training methods, and military small arms and ammunition).

The establishment of the National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice and the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, War Department.

The provisions of law for the transportation and subsistence of State Civilian Teams to the Small Arms Firing School and National Matches.

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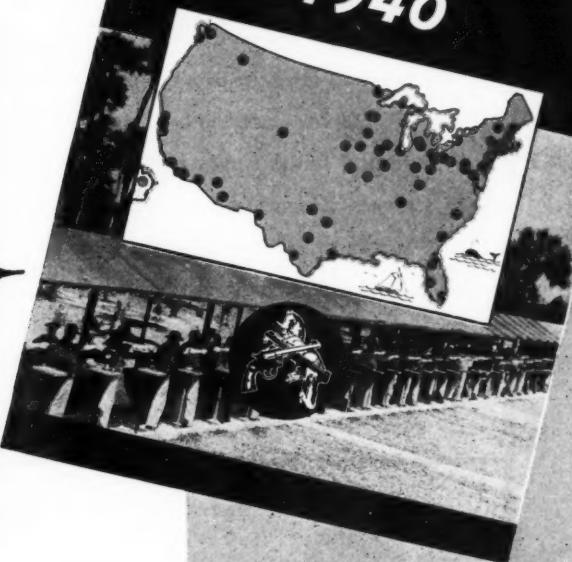
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THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

THE COVER: A reading of Garrett Underhill's "Under the Red Star" is evidence aplenty that the chances of Russia in her war with Germany rest almost entirely in the hands of rifleman-snipers like the team on the cover. Acutely conscious of the value of marksmanship training, the Soviet has built up a tremendous reserve of competent riflemen, and can count on them as a potent factor in turning the tide of Blitzkrieg. The cover, as well as the photographs accompanying the article, is from Sovfoto, official Russian newspicture agency in this country.

Our author, Garrett Underhill, ranks as one of the top U. S. experts on World War II. Grandson of General George W. Wingate, founding father of the N. R. A., and nephew of still another general, Underhill has a background of military lore equalled by few of our modern writers. Part II of his article will discuss all of the remaining Russian arms. The whole will constitute the first major study of the Soviet war machine to be presented to American readers.

Ludwig Olson's article on the German Army has been re-scheduled for October publication, to follow the second part of "Under the Red Star."

Two old-timers of the powder-burning clan, Colonel Townsend Whelen and Major Charles Askins, contribute important articles to this issue. The Colonel's "Hunting Tips and Tales" offers a timely suggestion to gun buyers in these times of gun and ammunition shortages. Major Askins, whose word has ever been respected when it comes to scattergun talk, takes us into his confidence on the ideal, all-round arm for the one-gun man.

Looking ahead: For the rifleman-hunter, "The Buck That Got Away," a story of shooting running game, by an old-timer of the Oregon hunting fields. In it he gives his technique of handling those difficult running shots, proved out in this case by the number of big Pacific Coast mule-deer that have fallen to his gun. And Bert Popowski will be back soon, this time to discuss ways and means of bringing our modern meat-getters into top-notch form for the coming big-game season.

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Europe Can Be Wrong

QUIPPED WITH EITHER the Enfield, Springfield or improved Garand, American troops are armed with a rifle that is inherently capable of driving an enemy into the ground at 600 yards. In the hands of men who have confidence in themselves and their rifles, an amount of execution can be accomplished up to a half-mile which will slow up an enemy, thin his ranks, knock out an occasional officer and non-com, dampen his enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

Of course, conditions of weather and terrain sometimes limit the practical range to 400 yards, 200 yards, even to 50 yards. But these same conditions affect all military operations. Because the long range bomber must often remain grounded, should we cease training bomber pilots? Silly? Of course,—but, why, then, waste the capabilities of the American rifle and rifleman on a training doctrine of 200 and 300 yards rapid fire? Why lead the American soldier to believe that he and his rifle are helpless to beat down the enemy at greater ranges? Why place limitations on one of the greatest morale factors in the life of the soldier—his confidence in his ability to knock down opposition wherever he sees it with his own personal weapon, the rifle?

Having been discredited with regard to their old theory that spraying the landscape with unaimed bullets will produce more enemy casualties than aimed fire, the short-range exponents are now advancing another argument. Listen to its deep logic—"All Europe can't be wrong—none of the European armies train riflemen beyond 300 yards."

What may sound like a potent argument to the present generation has a familiar, hollow, discredited note to those who remember the travail of training the American forces in 1917 and 1918. Pershing, on the scene of action, wanted riflemen who believed in their ability as marksmen and he demanded that they be trained "up to 600 yards." Nothing angered him more than the subservience to European advisers of officers in America who insisted on training American troops in the bayonet-thrusting, grenade-lobbing, short-range rapid-fire doctrine of the stalemated French and British armies.

Pershing's judgment was vindicated by the Regular Divisions of soldiers and Marines. They smashed German attacks with rifle fire so effective at 600 yards and longer range that the Germans were disrupted and amazed—and then carried on to drive the Germans into the open where victory was achieved. Pershing proved that "Europe could be wrong." The Boers had previously proven that Europe could be wrong with regard to long range rifle fire. The Finns did pretty well supported by mid and long range rifle fire—and not much else.

Indeed, the one outstanding fact in European military history has been that success has been achieved by those leaders who cast aside the military ideas of their period and used their own common sense in taking the maximum advantage of the men, matériel and organization with which they had to work.

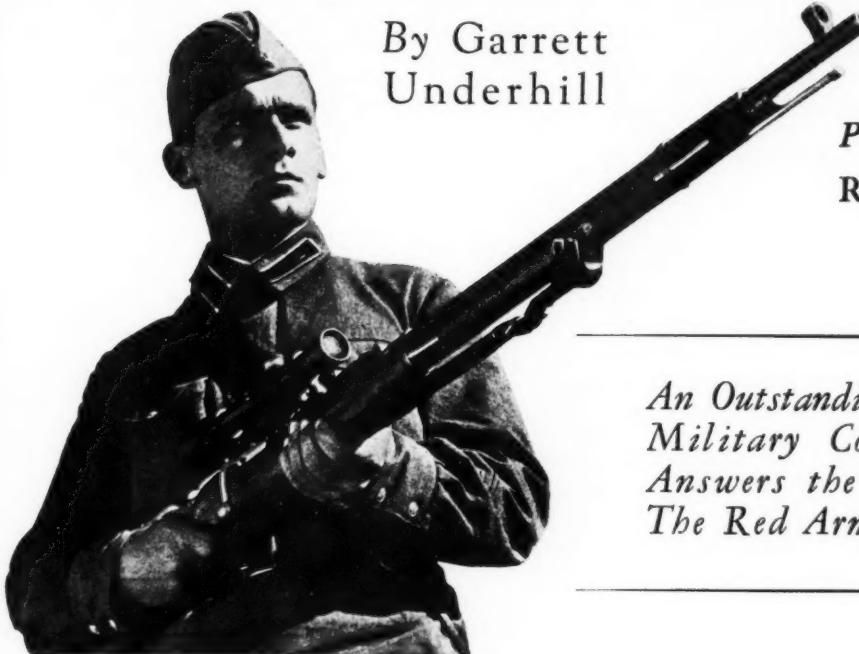
Of all the theories that have been advanced against effective individual marksmanship training for the American soldier, the "Europe can't be wrong" argument is the weakest. France in two great wars has no record of success to prove that its short-range-volume-of-fire-drive-with-the-bayonet theory is worth copying. Italy's dismal performances prove bombers, machine-guns and artillery to be no adequate substitute for soldiers who have confidence in their ability to smash the enemy with rifle fire. England is using a short range rapid fire rifle only because a new rifle, more accurate at longer ranges, was not in mass production when the Blitz struck.

History shows, not "that Europe can't be wrong," but that Europe can be—has often been—wrong. The American Army has in General George C. Marshall a leader without a peer in America or in Europe. General Marshall believes in individual rifle marksmanship as one of the basic essentials of the soldiers' training. It is to be sincerely hoped that the officers directly concerned with this training will take full advantage of American rifles and American psychology to train the American soldier to be capable and confident of his ability to smash with his rifle any unarmored target that he can see over his sights.

America is not Europe—and Europe *can* be wrong!—C.B.L.

UNDER THE RED STAR

By Garrett
Underhill



Sovfoto

*Part I: The
Russian Rifle*

*An Outstanding American
Military Correspondent
Answers the Enigma of
The Red Army Machine*

THE RED ARMY is as dark and mysterious as Russia itself. Out of the deep pine forests and driving snow there has emerged only the vaguest image of the forces and weapons which the Nazis have put to the test. Within Russia's own borders, foreign observers have been permitted only the briefest tantalizing glimpses, punctuated occasionally by the partial strip-tease of May Day parades. At the time of writing the Soviets are only beginning to draw aside the curtain and reveal to anxious allies the arms and strength of the real Red Army.

In the five times that Red forces and weapons have been advanced into the outside world, there has been little to indicate the real worth of the mass of men and matériel kept within Russian borders. In each instance, there have been reasons why evidence presented has been unsatisfactory and inconclusive.

On the whole, reports on the value of Russian arms in Spain were unfavorable. Still, conditioning factors existed which undermine the value of many such derogatory statements. There is no doubt but that Russian matériel was badly handled by the Loyalists. Trained personnel for re-assembly after shipment from Russia was unavailable. Firearms used mainly Loyalist ammunition, badly manufactured by unskilled labor. In the field, the troops were largely composed of politically avid but militarily untrained and undisciplined peasants and workers. Such soldiers could not be expected to get the most out of unfamiliar arms, nor to do wonders in field maintenance. It is not impossible that the Russians realized the shortcomings of Loyalist troops, and therefore did not waste first-line equipment on them.

Certainly, to the surprise of a host of Spanish veterans and observers, in the Battle of Lake Hassan, the Red

Army was able to teach the Japanese a sound lesson. Though this action showed the world where the Russians stood against a second or third-rate army like the Japanese, the equal secretiveness of both combatants disclosed few other facts to the Western powers.

Russian aid to China tells equally little. However familiar the Chinese may be with Rheinmetall and Skoda equipment, they confess that almost any weapon looks good to them. Untrained like the Spaniards, they too are bound to get less service out of foreign matériel. If they can ruin perfectly good Curtiss Hawks, Chinese cannot put the blame for malfunctions solely on the defects of Russian ordnance. In China, too, reliable foreign observers are few, and under many restrictions.

Of course, practically no reliable outsider witnessed the occupation of Poland, Bessarabia and the Baltic states. "RED ARMY'S MARCH INTO BESSARABIA ONE WAVE OF LOVE" was the heading under which a typical Russian propaganda organ described the movement in which air-borne tanks apparently were first used against an enemy. So far as accurate information goes, this propaganda piece was as instructive as any other report.

Only in the last weeks of the Finnish campaign did the world begin to see a definite outline of the Red Army and the value of its weapons. Here again foreign observers were too few and restricted in their movements. Newspaper correspondents who did get to the battlefields—though they never saw the crack divisions on the Karelian Isthmus—generally were incapable of absorbing data of interest either to soldiers or gun-cranks. The Finns themselves, accustomed to use Tsarist rifles, Maxim and artillery pieces seized from Red Russian arsenals in 1918, were

likely to over-estimate the worth of equipment according to American standards.

The sum of trial runs of Russian forces and matériel has in the end failed to present a systematic pattern of evidence. So colored has been past testimony, whether through insecure grounding or strong prejudice, that confusion exists even in details. Shown a picture of a Russian anti-tank gun, a veteran of the Kemi River Battle will be certain that it is a 37-mm. Rosenberg. Equally positive, an ex-member of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion will swear by the beard of Trotsky that it is the 45-mm. model of 1932 he used in Spain.

Whatever the real answers may finally appear to be, it is clear that the Russian soldier has entered this war better prepared than in the past. The very first principle of Communism demanded the complete militarization of the Russian State. Thus for 20 years Russia has focused her social and industrial activity on building the Red Army. Intensified in the past 10 years by a recrudescence nationalism, it is not entirely impossible that this program has rendered the Army powerful, though leaving the populace threadbare. Certainly Russia may definitely lay claim to first place in the mass use of armored vehicles, planes and parachutists. As will presently appear, her arms themselves betray equally advanced thinking.

If the spectre of failure looming on the mid-July horizon materializes into concrete reality, the debacle will be due to political mismanagement now and in the past. Soviet Russia has followed the same lines that brought defeat and disgrace to so many of the Imperial Russian forces. Too often Russian armies which have tried to

appear as mysterious monsters on the wings of the international stage have been exposed as paper dragons when action has shed harsh light upon them. There have been three such trials for Russia in the past century. After 25 years of nationalized militarism under the soldier-Tsar Nicholas II, the Russians collapsed miserably but bravely in the disgusting exposé of political and military incompetence that was the Crimean campaign. This type of tragedy was repeated in the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05, and again in 1914, when armies of the Grand Duke Nicolas self-confidently annihilated themselves in the Masurian Lake area. It may be well that these historical examples add up toward a conclusion which points to a national characteristic of mystery and poor leadership followed by failure.

Even if this is the case, the better equipment of the Russian soldier will have enabled him to die more effectively than his forefathers. Determined to take advantage of the stolid but heroic qualities of the Russian private, the Red Army has seen to it that the individual soldier is educated—which his father was not—and trained in the use of his weapon. There will be no more battles in which ignorant Russians will advance, barehanded, hoping to pick up a rifle from the fallen of the first waves.

In line with this policy the Red Army has furnished ample quantities of the basic arm: the Rifle. In essence, though this is a Tsarist weapon, even it represents the surge of Russian nationalism and the desire of Russian soldiers to have Russian arms that are designed for their character and temperament.

The history of the Rifle, 1891/1930 Pattern (as it is called) dates back to the realization by the old Army of the shortcomings of the rifles in use in the 1870's and 80's. The advent of smokeless powder and jacketed bullets permitted higher velocities, longer ranges, greater accuracy and less dispersion. More rounds per man could be carried than with heavier, larger-caliber ammunition. Also, the magazine rifle offered decided advantages. The rate of fire could be speeded up from 6 to 7 rounds per minute to 10 or 12.

In 1883 a special committee was appointed to supervise experimentation. Initially there was a protracted discussion as to whether single-shot rifles should continue in use, though the caliber be reduced and quality improved. It was felt by many that, if magazines be introduced, sufficient rounds could not be carried, and that battle supply would be difficult. Only after several years had proven the worth of the repeating rifle did the War Office decide on its adoption.

The findings of the committee singled out two rifles as deserving of attention. One of them was an invention of a Russian artilleryman and chief of the old Tula Arsenal, Sergey Ivanovitch Mosin (sometimes referred to as Mouzin). The other was a model developed by the Belgian manufacturer Nagant.

After tests, the majority of the committee favored the Nagant. Of superior quality, it reflected the manufacturing advantages under which the Belgian worked. In contrast, Mosin had labored under extremely unfavorable circumstances. Influential committee members were not carried away by the fine machining of the Nagant but noted the superior structural simplicity of the Mosin, and had these facts put in the record.

The discussion waxed so hot at this point that several hundred of each model were manufactured for service

*The Moscow Proletarian Division parades on May Day.
Rifles of rear rank carry Diakarov grenade-throwers*





Sovfoto

Red Army men of the Yakutsk S.S.R. support rifles on crossed ski poles. Thick clothing protects from intense Russian cold

test. Simultaneously, on license from Nagant, the feed and clip-loading system of the Nagant were introduced into the Mosin. Under the conditions of the test the Mosin won on the points of simplicity and durability.

Accepted into the Army in 1891, the Mosin became the first true Russian rifle. A victory had been scored against the usual crop of government grafters who could make fat commissions out of foreign arms orders. Only partial, this victory was marred by the fact that the Russian Army never recognized Mosin, and never called the rifle by his name. Worse, manufacture of the weapon was not at once vigorously commenced at government plants. The first orders were handed out to the French arsenal at Châtellerault, though tooling-up began in the Russian Tula and Sestroretzk arms factories. The Châtellerault order came through in 1892-93, and the new rifles were issued to the troops that had the hardest job. These were in the Warsaw Military District, facing the Germans.

In a year or two the new arms revealed wear in the rifling, especially at the muzzle. Opinion tended toward the belief that the man who ordered the Châtellerault lot had taken his cut by specifying a low-grade of steel. Damage to the lands around the muzzle was accounted for by the method of cleaning. Accustomed to the flip-up action of the Berdan, troops continued to clean the Model 1891 through the muzzle. One soldier would hold the muzzle with his left hand and insert a cord bearing a hard knot. Another would grab the butt and the other end of the cord and work away. Bad steel was easily corrected, and a new ramrod and muzzle protector were issued.

By the time of the Russo-Japanese War all but one minor kink had been eliminated. That appeared in the war, when cartridge cases occasionally jammed the action. Frequently it was necessary to knock the bolt handle up with a stone—a step which many veterans of the Spanish Civil War were forced to take with even the modernized version. Better ammunition and head-spacing was one solution. Lubricated ammunition was another. Nevertheless, the bolt handle is still opened by a blow of the palm.

Thousands of Americans are familiar with the Model 1891 as it existed in the days of the World War. Tremendous orders for the rifle were placed with Winchester, Remington and New England Westinghouse after the fall of the Tsarist regime. No less than 280,049 were delivered to the U. S. Army during 1917 and 1918 for war training purposes. These rifles have since found their way into the hands of American civilians through the facilities of the National Rifle Association, which up to about 10 years ago retailed them to members at \$3.34.

The M1891—which is still used in Russia to a small extent, and used in China, Finland and Roumania, as well—is a caliber .30 rifle: 7.62-mm. It is from the caliber that the name "3-ligne" or "3-line"—sometimes heard in referring to the Mosin—comes. A "ligne" is a unit of measure under the antique French system, in which the "pied du roi," or king's foot, was subdivided into "pouces" (inches), "lignes" and "points."

Like so many rifles of the early 90's the Mosin is long—48.4 inches. The forestock runs to within 3 1/4 inches of the muzzle, and—in all true Russian rifles—is paralleled



Sojoto

Students of the Stalinabad Teacher's Training Institute get Spring small bore training on a fifty meter outdoor target

Sojoto

forward of the rear sight and above the barrel by a light wood handguard. A long cleaning rod is sunk into the forestock. Slots are dug through butt and forestock into which the leather sling is strapped. This clumsy arrangement for carrying the 9.9 pound rifle still persists even in the modernized version.

Another queer holdover is the triangular needle bayonet, a sleeve-locking type offset to the right when fixed. Although the introduction of the knife bayonet came under discussion in 1914-18 and is now under way, the great majority of Russian rifles have this old, 3-fluted type like that of our Model 1873 Springfield. No scabbard is provided. The bayonet is generally carried fixed, or else—since it fits over the barrel like a sleeve, locking on the foresight stud—it can be put on in reverse. Rifles are stacked simply by tying the bayonets together like the poles of a wigwam. In the new model rifle, the bayonet lock has been improved, and scabbards are being provided, though no stacking swivels are contemplated.

Ammunition was and generally is that of 1908, a rimmed cartridge weighing 363 grains and loaded with a spitzer bullet. The cartridges feed in clips of 5 down through clip guides in the rear of the frame into the familiar Lee-type magazine in which the rounds stand stacked in single vertical bank. The bolt cocks on locking, and can be worked without taking the rifle from the shoulder. With two fairly large bolt lugs the action can stand pressures generated by the Russian cartridge, but has been known to blow badly in the few rifles converted in this country to .30-'06 ammunition. In most of these instances it is the receiver that gives way, and not the bolt. An alarming feature of the latter is that the firing pin will shoot home even though snow and mud may have prevented the bolt handle from being pulled down to

full locking position in front of an upward projection of the receiver frame. Once the bolt is locked, the Mosin rifleman may avail himself of a feature which has puzzled many non-Russians—the Mosin safety. Put on by pulling the cocking piece back against the full tension of the spring, it is reversed in the same direction. Speculation holds that in a nation where life is of little importance anyway, it is considered better not to have a safety that can be set to "off" by a simple flip of the thumb.

When the rifle is fired, the cartridge imparts to the bullet a muzzle velocity of 2,820 feet per second. Traveling through the long 31.5-inch barrel, the bullet receives a spin from 4 grooves which make 1 twist in 9½ inches. These features compare with the 23.7-inch, 4-grooved barrel of the Springfield, its 1 turn in 10 inches, and a muzzle velocity of 2,800 feet with M2 ammunition.

Cartridge clips today are carried either in 4 leather Czech-made pouches of the German type (bought when Soviet Russia was weathering a leather shortage) or in two leather-covered boxes on the belt. Thus unencumbered with large quantities of either rifle or light-machine gun ammunition, the rifleman's clear mission is effective fire, generally at the slow rate of 10 to 12 rounds per minute. Even in anti-aircraft work, intervals of from 4 to 5 seconds for loading and sighting are recommended by the 1941 Red Army Rifle Company AA Manual.

In the old rifle, the sights were calibrated in paces. The ignorant mojuk was evidently incapable of grasping both the mechanism of the rifle and the ability to estimate ranges in meters. Great jagged steps in the uprights on either side of the sight leaf gave elevation at intervals of 200 paces up to 1200. On the back of the leaf itself were etched a finer scale up to 3200 paces.

When the rifle was modernized in 1930 the sights were



Soxfoto

A girl tractor driver of the Buinaksk machine and tractor works in Daghestan practices under the eye of a reserve officer coach

the principal objects of attention. The rear sight was changed to the type seen on the Mauser Karbine 1898. The leaf rests between two curving ramps. On pressing buttons on the right and left of the rear of the sight leaf, a slide climbs the ramps, raising the leaf. A single open V aperture is provided, with battle sight at 200 meters and maximum elevation of 2400 meters. There is no provision for windage.

While these changes increased the effectiveness of the rear sight and rendered it somewhat less exposed to damage, the foresight was also protected. In some new models it has a cylindrical guard, while in others it has dog-ear guards rising on either side of the foresight in the manner of the American Enfield.

Russians are inclined to criticize even in official publications the new square-bead front sight. However good a battle sight, crack Russian riflemen find that it impairs their aim at small targets, carrying their shots off to one side all too frequently. This defect is felt particularly at long ranges.

Though on modernization minor changes have been made in the rifle itself—such as the addition of springs to hold in the upper and lower bands of the stock—it is typical of the Red Army that most attention should be devoted to accurate shooting. To this end the Russians have gone even further, and supplied telescopes with mounts for both the M1891 and the M1891/1930. The latter has a standard scope mounted on the receiver, thus rendering the open sights almost useless. The mount includes windage as well as elevation, while the power of the scope is such that adjustments for range on the eyepiece must be made. Though ordinary rifles or even those issued to mounted troops lack turned-down bolt handles, this refinement has been furnished in the case of sniper's

pieces. Such weapons are, of course, star-gauged rifles. The rifle with scope is able to do work on the range at 1000 meters and over, and is furnished to the rifle regiment for selected personnel.

In spite of reports that the cavalry reputedly use the Model 1910 Carbine—similar to the rifle except for its length of 39.7 inches, its weight of 7.26 pounds and its sights—indications point to the arming of the majority of infantry and cavalry combat personnel with the M1891/1930. In the Infantry section, all but the light machine gunner carry rifles. The same applies to a lesser extent to anti-tank platoons. Since Russia is still by and large a wild country loaded with game, it is not surprising therefore that hunters like the Russians should demand and receive this base of accurate rifle fire for their forces.

In consonance with the program of furnishing the individual soldier with an individual weapon capable of being put to effective use, the Red Army has stepped beyond the bounds of conditioning men in military service only and sponsored the Ossviachim. This organization was founded in 1927 as the Society for the Promotion of Defense, Aviation and Chemical Defense. From the start it had the blessing and backing of the shock-forces of the Communist party—the Komsomols, and the still younger Communists, the Pioneers.

With full Party support the Ossviachim was certain to flourish. At first devoted to instructing in the simple elements of civilian gas defense, it has since 1929 been concentrating more and more on rifle training. The more ambitious may undertake machine gunning, tank driving, gliding, aviation, or parachuting. Nevertheless, some force has kept the temperamental Russian soul from stampeding into these novel fields and from forgetting the essential value of rifle practice.

No fad of the moment, the Ossviachim rifle program has constantly grown. By 1930 university students had received instruction. Next year the so-called "10-year" schools were attacked, while in 1934 all the lower schools, including children of 10 to 14 years, were included in the drive. Since then, as ammunition and weapons have become available, the scope of the coverage has been expanded to blanket almost all ages and sexes.

Instructors are furnished by the society. Supported at first by contributions and Party donations, the Ossviachim has for some years past had large State appropriations to cover rifles, instructors, ammunition and funds for indoor and outdoor ranges. By 1937, the USSR claimed 6600 small-bore ranges, exclusive of similar army ranges.

Furnished are a Russian version of the .22, a sporter of approximately 5.5-mm. caliber, which may have both peep and Army open-type sights and teaches the same use of the sling in prone, sitting and standing positions as in the case of the M1891/1930. There is a slight difference in that in small-bore rifles the sling is already attached to a swivel just forward of the rear sight. On Army rifles the service sling has to be buckled around the piece forward of the rear sight to be of aid in steadyng aim.

Qualified marksmen may receive a telescope for small-bore work. For some reason—perhaps to conform with Army practice—even the small-bore sling is strapped around the barrel before the left arm is inserted. On indoor small-bore ranges 25 meters is the normal range. Outdoors, both Army and civilians are given their first task—which is close grouping—at 50 meters. Both small-bore and army rifle marksmen are broken in at this same range. As proficiency increases, so do the ranges, with a maximum for experts of 1000 meters

A Red Army section, armed with rifles and Dektyarov light machine gun, goes into action



sovfoto

with the M1891/1930, using only open sights, of course.

Rifle clubs owning such ranges are to be found in most factories, urban office centers, collective farms and agricultural areas. Members participate in their lunch hours and in the 2 to 3 hours following work. Basic courses include elementary rifle and pistol shooting, elementary ballistics and range estimating up to 600 meters. The more ambitious may go in for advanced courses including the light machine gun and the heavy Maxim.

Advanced training is given particularly to those who are due for military service. These go to stations located in or near all major urban centers or country districts. Outside of those qualified as ordinary "Voroshilov Marksmen," these stations claimed for the 1936 course to have advanced approximately 20,000 boys to "Voroshilov Marksmen of the 2nd Grade," 2,000 to sharpshooters and 1,000 to experts.

Some idea of the effectiveness of this pre-military rifle training is conveyed by the assertions of the officer in charge of the Moscow Area when the age groups of boys 19 and 20 were called to the Army in September of 1940. He found that 87% of the draft had qualified as marksmen, 7% as machine gunners, and 2.3% were experts with the scope-fitted M1891-1930.

With training extending to all walks of life, Russia must have a tremendous reserve of parashoots and guerrillas. At a 1940 meet at Novosibirsk in Siberia members of 33 other city teams were cleaned out by a factory worker and an obstetrician named Demidenko, who tied with individual scores of 136 out of a possible 150. Also on a 50-meter range, a Kharkov man ran off with a Moscow meet with a score of 100 out of a possible 100.

Interesting is the fact that both skeet and trap shooting is encouraged by the Army. Officers and men not only hunt a good deal, but have their skeet and trap meets among themselves and with civilians. The national championships are usually held in October in the Pushkinskoye suburb outside Moscow, where on a windy day last year a civilian by the name of Antonev won the finals of the skeet shoot by getting 27 out of 30. For trap, the clay doves sail out at a velocity of 20 meters in .9 seconds.

Of course, this is the Russian side. An ex-Marine who fought in Spain asserts that even the 1936 star-gauge rifles were inefficient, and that, though no marksman himself, he could outshoot any of the Russian experts present as instructors to the International Brigade. Finns criticize the shooting of some reservists, and in some pictures of papa and mama at rifle clubs it is to be noticed that mama has got her bolt neither open nor locked, and obviously hasn't much of an idea about the methods of handling a rifle. Some laugh at the Russian tendency to keep the left hand close under the bolt and to grip the magazine in the prone position. Others find fault with their tendency to keep the left elbow too close to the hip in the standing position. However, where there's smoke, there's fire. It is impossible for any Army or State so thoroughly to sponsor rifle practice without getting considerable returns. In war, those returns are bound to be effective, in part at least. For the saving in elementary instruction time once the recruit is inducted, for the consciousness of the need for military training the first few misses give, and for the final effectiveness of the individual soldier, the Russian system—whether born of Communists or not—is an advance of which Americans have every reason to be ashamed.

GET SET FOR PERRY!

IT'S GOING TO BE different this year, but for the eight days from August 31 to September 7 it'll be Camp Perry again nonetheless for America's small bore rifle and pistol shooters. The National Matches are definite now and most of the "ifs" have been ironed out by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice in cooperation with the N. R. A. There necessarily are going to be several big changes over previous years, of course, the most drastic of which will be the elimination of all .30 caliber rifle competition because of the nation's urgent need for the service equipment and of the service men who normally would compete. However, to the small bore rifle and pistol enthusiasts such changes as have been made in their connection are for the better.

It is probable then, from the civilian shooter's point of view, that the 1941 Nationals will be bigger and smoother running than ever. Inquiries received by the match officials have led to the belief that registration, at least, will surpass any previous year in both the small bore and handgun fields.

Accommodations for the competitors and match personnel will be unlimited, thanks to the efforts of the National Board and of Ohio Adjutant General W. S. Bird. There is one very important point this year which match officials emphasize, however. Accommodations in competitors' quarters will be restricted to male United States citizens over 16 years of age. A limited Squaw Camp adjacent to the reservation will be available to accommodate female competitors. Inasmuch as no junior program is included this year, there will likewise be no accommodations for juniors.

No charge will be made for quarters either in the competitors' camp or in Squaw Camp, although a cash deposit covering the cost of the bedding issued will be required. This deposit will be refunded when the bedding is returned.

It will not be necessary to write ahead for reservations in either of the camps inasmuch as both male and female shooters will be assigned quarters upon arrival at Camp Perry.

The Dates of the matches will, of course, be August 31 to September 7, inclusive. The first day, Sunday, will be devoted to registration and the organization of the Small Arms Firing School, embracing both small bore rifle and pistol instruction. The actual instruction periods will take in both Monday and Tuesday while the matches will take over on Wednesday, September 3, and continue the remaining five days.

The Small Arms Firing School will be conducted by two competent and well-known men with a staff of able assistants. Thurman Randle, of Texas, will be in

charge of small bore rifle instruction. Frank Wyman, of the N. R. A. Staff, will organize the pistol school. All competitors who satisfactorily complete either course will get an instructor's certificate issued by the War Department.

The Small Bore Firing Schedule generally follows the established scheme of National Match programs, although several new events have been added. These include a 20-shot standing event at 50 yards and a 20-shot kneeling match at 50 yards. Two restricted matches also have been added—one for Sharpshooters and one for Marksmen—over the Dewar Course with metallic sights.

Two more small bore aggregates have been programmed. The Metallic Sight Aggregate consists of all metallic sight open matches and the Any Sights Aggregate comprises the individual events fired under any sight conditions.

Practically all of the individual events are classified and appropriate medals will be awarded to the five high competitors in the Expert, Sharpshooter and Marksman Classes as well as to the five high shooters in the match.

The Pistol Schedule as in the past embraces events which are fired with the three popular caliber handguns over the established National Match and Camp Perry Courses plus the new Short Course. A number of new aggregates have been added including aggregates of .22, center fire and .45 caliber firing, in addition to the popular Orton Trophy All-Around Aggregate and the N. R. A. Grand Aggregate.

No Pistols or Rifles of any caliber will be available for loan to shooters.

Ammunition in both .22 and .45 calibers will be available for issue at the firing line free of charge in all matches and for practice.

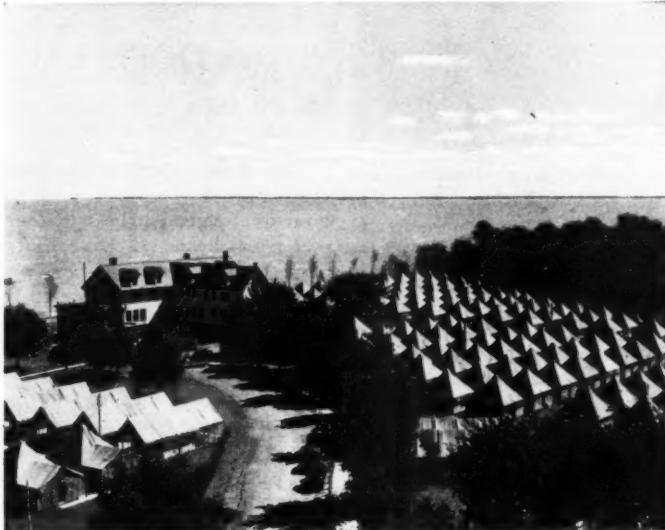
Although No .30 Caliber Rifle Matches will be programmed this year, a limited number of targets will be set aside for practice should any competitors wish to bring along their high-powered rifle and ammunition.

Commercial Row will be there as usual with most of the firms who have been represented in the past holding forth. The Post Exchange also will be open.

The New Hogan's Alley will be set up near the Proving Ground and used in connection with the pistol school.

The Match Personnel with the exception of Colonel Endicott, the D. C. M. Head, and Lt. Col. G. G. Parks, his Assistant, will be composed entirely of civilians carefully selected for their experience.

The Programs are ready. You may obtain yours without cost by addressing the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.



"Squaw Camp" and the Perry Clubhouse



The VERSATILE 550

A DOPE BAG REVIEW

THE NEW MODEL 550 Remington semiautomatic has aroused no little interest, because of its declared ability to function with anything in the line of small-bore ammunition, thanks to its "power piston" (sliding chamber to us, since we guessed correctly back in March). Well, it came, we saw, and we are convinced.

The recoil resistance of the Model 550 action is regulated for the .22 Long Rifle cartridge and works fairly well under the back thrust of the .22 Long. The .22 Short, however, requires some augmentation. This is effected by using a short sliding chamber to increase the back thrust of its relatively light charge. The mouth of the Short shell flares out against the front edge of this sliding chamber as the bullet leaves it, and the powder gases enter the gap and expand between the face of the chamber and the shoulder against which it seats in the bore. The result is that the chamber slides back holding the shell, the head of which, against the face of the bolt, is already pushing the latter back. The increased backthrust area thus obtained was calculated to increase the .22 Short back-thrust to equal that of the .22 Long Rifle.

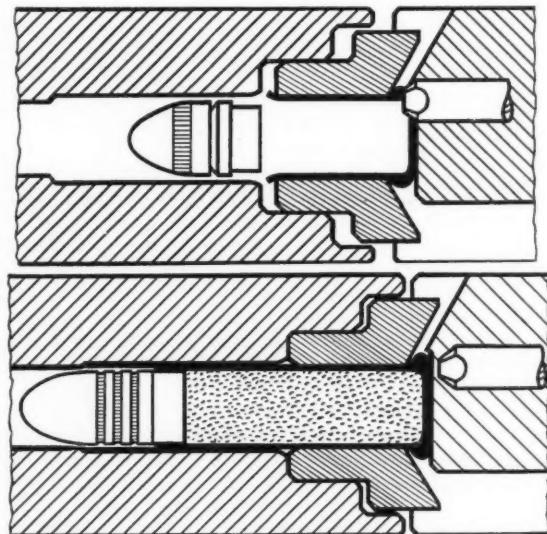
When the .22 Long cartridge is seated in the Model 550 chamber the same augmenting sliding action cannot take place, because the sliding chamber is purposely made the length of the Short case and the gap is closed by the copper walls of the longer case. Thus the principal difference between this Remington "Power Piston" and the floating chambers of the Colt Service Ace pistol and .22-caliber machine guns of Williams' invention is that of their respective lengths, these others being designed to augment the recoil of the .22 Long Rifle cartridge. Some trouble has been experienced with individual specimens of these floating chambers when their makers failed to adjust their lengths properly, exact length being very necessary for the satisfactory functioning of any sliding chamber of this type.

When we first tried the 550 we thought we had caught a Tartar or lemon or something, because it refused to work. With the first fill of Shorts, four cases were caught by the closing bolt. With Longs, four failed to feed from the magazine. Then filling up the magazine again, this time with regular .22 Long Rifle, we tried it again. On the first shot the head blew off the case and its soft copper walls jammed the chamber. The moral of this experience is: don't give up too easily and don't sell the Model 550 short, because it has operated astonishingly well ever since, and with .22 Long Rifle as well as Short cartridges.

We thought perhaps the Short loads, fired first, had scored the chamber and caused the Long case to stick and tear off. Accordingly, upon our next visit to the range we tried all our .22 Long Rifle loads first. A hundred shots, timed and rapid-fire, with eight different loads resulted in only one failure to feed, and one misfire not blamable on the gun. The 20-shot strings with Shorts of two makes gave no malfunctions. One make of Longs gave five feed failures. One make of high-velocity .22 Long Rifle gave one feed failure. And one make of high-velocity Shorts resulted in jamming one fired case between bolt and breech. In view of the great variety of loads of all types tried, we think that is a creditable record. We discount the fact that our sample does not function as well with the inconsequential .22 Long cartridge, holding that its discrimination against such poor fodder is only to the rifle's credit.

This new Remington has a good, well-finished one-piece stock of dense American walnut. It is not checkered or overly large, but so well proportioned that it feels secure in the hands of an adult shooter. Likewise, the trigger gives a clean let-off, after a suggestion of creep and a fairly hard pull, which permits adequate control in rapid-

The Remington "power-piston" in action (above) with the .22 Short cartridge. The lower drawing shows how the .22 Long Rifle cuts off the piston action





The lines of the new Remington are trim and neat

fire. Its sights are bead and open, but nonetheless we had an idea it should do its stuff rapid-fire in 10-shot strings. Even at 100 yards, fired thus, it did pretty well. Kleanbore Hi-Speed was best, with a group just over 3½ inches and most of them in less than 2¾ inches.

At 50 yards, a more reasonable range for open sights, the best loads were Hi-Skor, K. B. Hi-Speed, W.R.A. Leader and Staynless, with little to choose among them. Shooting rapid-fire, the 10-shot strings with the loads named ran from 1.95 to 2.20 inches, center-to-center. Shorts were fired twice as fast, using the same time for 20-shot strings, but even so the Hi-Skor brand had 16 shots in the same spread as the best Long Rifle loads. These results would indicate the Model 550 is accurate as well as versatile in the matter of handling any load.

Intrigued, we decided to give it a real accuracy test, by fitting a 3-X Weaver scope in the "S" mount which we found required no cutting of the wood. At 50 yards, now firing slow fire, but from the magazine, we had our best groups with W.R.A. Staynless. The four 10-shot strings with this load gave groups of 1.47, 1.66, 1.00 and 1.23 inches. To date we have found only one .22 autoloading rifle to give better accuracy with selected loads, and that one is in a higher price class than this twenty-dollar Remington.

The rifle has already been described in the May Dope Bag, but we can now add it is an attractive piece. It is of the bolt-action type with tubular magazine, which pulls out in front for loading. It takes down easily and, by removing two screws, it can be completely disassembled. It has a thumb-rocker safety on the right side

of the receiver. The latter is smooth of line and ends gracefully in a tapered cap or plug. The semi-beaver-tail stock is plain and without swivels, but it too is graceful of line with fillets at the comb and behind the pistol grip. The black bakelite butt-plate is trim and neatly fitted. Even the cheapest aspect, the light external trigger guard, is neatly fitted. The well-shaped trigger is sharply grooved, which makes a good touch. The non-descript Model-550-A sights, bright bead and open rear on the barrel, may be dodged by getting the special Model-550-P sights, square top front and adjustable peep rear. The neat tear-drop bolt handle projects adequately for grasping.

The remaining specifications are: 24-inch round tapered barrel; double extractors; overall length, 43½ inches; takedown length, 31½ inches; weight 6½ pounds; receiver top neatly grooved lengthwise; all metal parts neatly blued.

The tubular magazine holds 15 Long Rifle, 17 Long or 22 of the Short cartridges per filling. Because of this magazine and the autoloading action it is not intended for untrained shooters. It was designed for plinking and small-game shooting and not for rifle training or conventional target shooting. Among the rifles of its class it is a particularly useful one, because of its indifference to the nature of the cartridge which might be employed at the moment. If the shooter finds one type unavailable he can take a second or sixth choice for this versatile rifle, since it will handle either regular or high-velocity loads in any of the three popular lengths of .22 rim fire ammunition.

ORDNANCE QUOTES

40-MM. Auto A. A. Cannon: First two 40-mm. automatic A. A. cannon ever manufactured in the United States were delivered to Brig. Gen. C. T. Harris, Jr., an Assistant to the Chief of Ordnance, June 30 by the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company at Akron, Ohio. Firestone manufactures the carriages and the Chrysler Corporation of Detroit manufactures the guns.

Back From Retirement: Still in good condition after two decades of storage, a large quantity of World War field artillery is being "restored" at Erie Proving Ground (old Erie Ordnance Depot) at Lacarne, Ohio. Cannon include everything from French 75's to 155-mm. GPF's and 250-mm. howitzers.

Ammunition: Armored Division ammunition requirements for a single day are 600 tons, compared with 39 tons for the old square division and 55 tons for the motorized, triangular division. Armored Division weapons include 533 cannon, 6488 m.g.'s, 10,000 cal. .45 pistols, more than 2000 rifles for the 12,700 officers and men.—From "Army Ordnance Bulletin" of the Army Ordnance Association, July 15th, 1941.

Where Confidence Counts It's Great to be Shot!

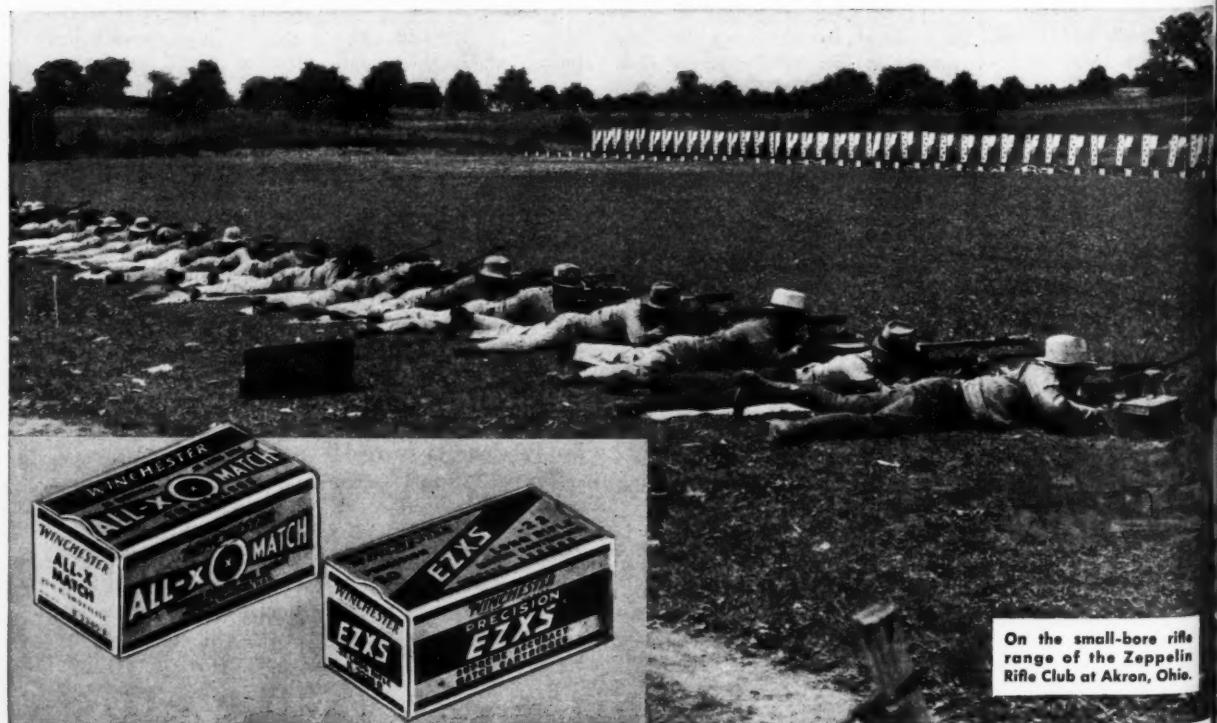
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On the National Match pistol and revolver range at Camp Perry, Ohio.

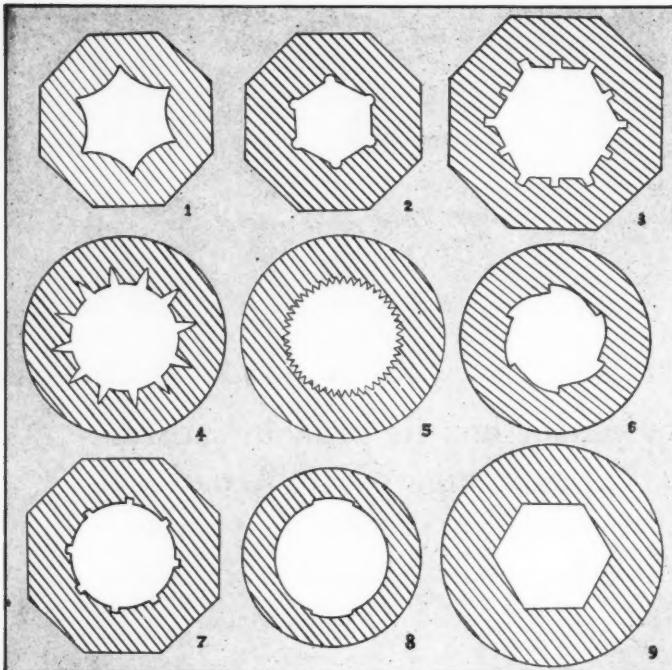


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By
STEPHEN TRASK, JR.

RIFLING

A Glance into the History of the Grooved Barrel

IT HAS OCCURRED to the author that all too often writers on arms and kindred subjects are prone to mention one or another of the rifling systems of the past, and in so doing, proceed to take it entirely for granted that the reader knows exactly what he is talking about, and can visualize just that form of rifling in his mind's eye. Such unhappily is seldom the case. The following is an attempt to clarify this situation in a measure. It should be borne in mind that in nearly every case the drawings are distorted to show types rather than actual proportions of the rifling in question.

The reign of Henry the Eighth, who ascended to the throne of Tudor England in 1509, witnessed the most far-reaching of firearm developments that were to take place from the discovery of gunpowder until in 1807 Preacher Forsyth's percussion caps heralded the birth of rifles and pistols as we know them today. During the first years of the young monarch's reign the wheellock or "rose lock" came into being, probably through the genius of some long-forgotten Nürnberg metalworker. So too, at the same time and probably in the same locality was evolved the first grooved barrel, and with it the germ of a system that from that time made firearms the most to be reckoned with of any mechanical device in the long history of mankind. Here, as its development progressed, was a weapon with which man could kill his fellow man at increasingly longer distances. So gradually through its influence the face of war changed from one of personal man-to-man combat into a warfare of increasingly greater armies, with victories falling to the combatant with the largest number of skilful gunners in the field.

Curiously, the true function and value of rifling remained a mystery for well over two centuries. It was not until 1740 that the experiments of Benjamin Robbins

placed the use of rifling and the accuracy of firearms in their true relation to each other. In spite of the understood fact that the accuracy of "Henry ye viii's" crossbowmen and archers was due in no small measure to the spiral feathers of their projectiles, the principle seems to have been imperfectly understood, or at best poorly adapted to the rifles of the 16th Century. Rifling followed no system, and it is not uncommon to find rifled arms of that period in which the grooves lack any twist whatever.

Throughout the 16th, 17th and 18th Centuries rifling followed no single trend other than in the variety of forms in which it appeared. Typical 17th Century examples are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. Despite this amazing number of variations, no great progress in the science of rifled arms was made and no system offered any appreciable advantage over another. The same thing was true in a measure of the arms of the first decades of the 19th Century, although alongside the numberless and valueless variations of earlier systems appeared a few which gave some promise of the ultimate value of rifled arms. Typical of the former are Figures 4, 5 and 6. It would be difficult to imagine rifling less efficient or more prone to corrosion and cleaning difficulties than the "star-grooving" of Figure 4 or of "polygrooving" (Figure 5), so dear to the French pistol makers of the last century. The ratchet rifling shown in Figure 6, though in itself hardly an ideal form, did however give warning of a system to be used by many of our finest riflemakers of a later century. The Newton-Pope parabolic rifling (Figure 14) is a direct adaptation of this older system, and Harry Pope's own barrels (Figure 15) embody something of the same form in having the driving face of each land on a sharp angle while the opposite face slips off in a smooth arc into the groove.

Figure 7 may be taken as typical of the most famous of American rifling systems—that of the American or "Kentucky" flintlock rifle. By-and-large, in the hands of resolute Americans intent on throwing off a yoke of foreign domination, the American rifle proved itself the most successful and deadly military arm of its time, and established the value of accurate, rifled weapons in every army of the world. No evidence could be more conclusive than the oft-quoted Battle of New Orleans, where little more than a handful of American backwoodsmen managed to inflict 2,100 casualties on the supposedly better armed British force, at a cost to themselves of 6 killed and 7 wounded. Europe was amazed at the result of this encounter between backwoods rifles and the finest of British smoothbores. Napoleon, in exile at Elba, refused to believe it unless he could actually witness some of these feats of marksmanship. Several of the veterans of New Orleans were actually on their way to Elba, and might have reached him had not the Hundred Days come too soon upon him. Who can say what might have been the outcome had the "Little Corporal" changed to riflemen? The generality of mankind might not have been made any the happier through another ending to the Napoleonic career, but, had rifles been used, the history of Europe and of the world might easily have become a different story.

In England numerous systems of rifling were tried during the first half of the 19th Century, with two in particular attracting considerable attention: the two-groove boring of the Brunswick rifle (Figure 8) and Sir Joseph Whitworth's hexagonal bore (Figure 9). In 1835 a Captain Berners of the Brunswick Regiment suggested the use of a two-grooved barrel with the bullet having two projecting lugs to fit into these grooves. It was adopted by the British Army in 1836, and in 1840 superseded entirely the Baker, which had been the first rifle officially adopted into the army of any major power.

The use of bullets shaped to the contour of the bore reached its highest development in the rifles of Sir Joseph Whitworth. In 1854 the English Government appropriated \$60,000 to enable Whitworth, a celebrated Manchester machinist, to experiment with small arms. In April, 1857, the final product of Whitworth's labors, a rifle having a hexagonal bore and firing pewter or other hard-alloy bullets of the same shape, received its first public trial at the great musketry school at Hythe, where it was compared with the Enfield of the British Army.

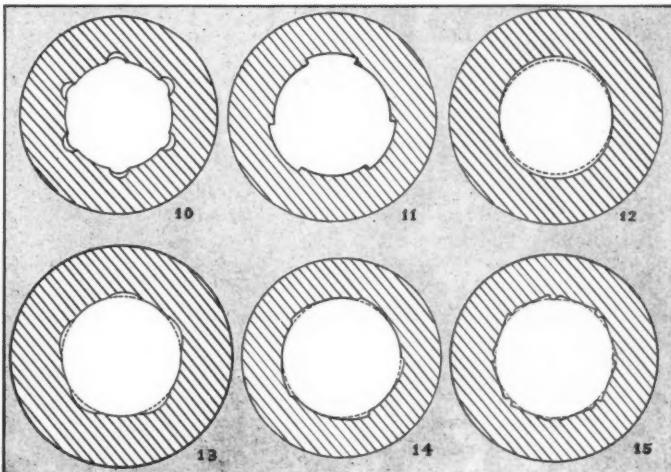
The accuracy of the Whitworth at 1100 yards was reckoned to be equal to that of the Enfield at 500. Penetr-

Typical modern rifling: a cross-section of the Winchester M-52 barrel

tration of the long Whitworth bullet was nearly three times that of the Enfield. Unfortu-

nately, by the end of the trials, \$250,000 of British money had been spent instead of \$60,000. The Whitworth, though phenomenally accurate for its time, was found to have other faults, particularly those of heavy recoil and cleaning difficulties, and was never adopted into the Service.

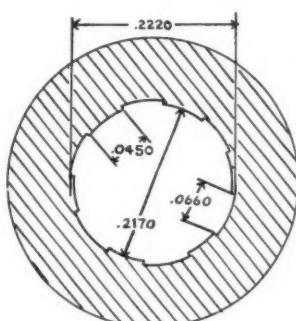
On this side of the Atlantic the same conditions held true. Out of the melee of trials and inventions, three systems stand out among those used in American military arms, the segmental of our Model 1841 rifle (Figure 10), the 3-groove Springfield type (Figure 11), a system which had also been tried by the British, and the Lancaster-Greene. This last (Figure 12) is perhaps the most interesting of the three. Invented in 1854 by a British gunmaker, Charles Lancaster, it embodied an oval-shaped bore, rather than conventional grooves. The system was promptly appropriated to the American Greene percussion



rifle, which stands as one of the most peculiarly constructed military arms ever to be produced. The Lancaster oval bore was used, the hammer was beneath the arm, and in its paper cartridges the bullets were loaded behind the powder charge, each bullet acting in turn as a gas seal and then being pushed ahead as a projectile for the following cartridge.

Of the rifling systems of what may be termed the modern formative period, those of Charles Newton stand preeminent. His segmental bore (Figure 13) harks back to the 1841 segmental rifling, and to the even earlier system tried by Mangeot in 1838. As already noted, the parabolic rifling developed later by Newton and Harry Pope (Figure 14) is an adaptation of the ratchet form used in earlier muzzle-loaders. Last of the forms preceding our modern type of rifling, that of Harry Pope himself, based on the system developed by George Schalk, stands head-and-shoulders above any other as a system for the production of finely accurate barrels. Developed originally for .25 and .32 caliber arms, it has been used with but slight modifications in all of the rifles which have established Harry Pope as the greatest barrelmaker of all time.

Finally, we may consider the "standard" rifling (Fig. 15) used almost universally today in sporting and military arms. While it may vary in the number of grooves and the ratio of land-groove width, the system basically has supplanted nearly every other form in the making of modern barrels.



HUNTING TIPS AND TALES

By COLONEL TOWNSEND WHELEN

THIS IS NOT A CHRONICLE of all the happenings of that memorable "expedition" into the North, but rather a disjunct account of some of my experiences in the wilds, where the basic knowledge of marksmanship and mountaintcraft acquired from the two "Bills" stood me in good stead. I am starting out with the old rifles of my first Western venture because I think it might not be a bad idea to show just what can be done with such arms that many would class as "has beens." In the present emergency that confronts both us and our good friends the rifle and ammunition manufacturers, it may not be possible for a would-be hunter to obtain the modern arm of his dreams for the coming season. He may have to take what he can get, and the arms most available are those "thirty-thirties" that have been manufactured to the extent of well over a million, that were still being made in greater numbers than any other game rifles up to the time when we began sending bundles abroad, and that have killed more deer in America than any other rifles. As you will see, they did fine work. While rifles for long-range shooting and for keeping in the X-ring have improved greatly in recent years, the rifles of yesterday still reliably hit and kill game at sporting ranges if the hunter will do his part correctly.

My first Western hunting in British Columbia was more than a trip—it was an expedition—for I was out of touch with civilization for nine months. As I look back on it now I went pretty well prepared. I had just completed about two years of marksmanship training under the finest coach of those days, Captain William DeV. Foulke. He was the last man to win the Wimbledon Cup Match with the .45 Sharps rifle; he wrote "The School of the Krag," our first book on modern shooting, and incidentally, started the elder Frank Hoppe on research for a cleaning solution that finally resulted in "Hoppe's Powder Solvent No. 9." I also had made eight short deer-hunting trips in the Adirondacks and West Virginia, and I was young and hard.

I jumped off the Canadian Pacific at Ashcroft, bought two pack horses,

a saddle horse, and the necessary saddles and equipment for \$75.00, loaded about 200 pounds of grub and started north alone over the Caribou Trail, branching off to the west at Hat Creek and continuing north along the Coast Range. I had two rifles, a .30-30 Winchester Model 1894 with pistol grip and shotgun butt, and a .40-72 Winchester Model 1895, also with shotgun butt. Each rifle was fitted with Lyman sights and a gun sling. My saddle blankets served as bedding, a home-made pack cover nine feet square was my only shelter and I had a light cook kit—a pretty skimpy outfit according to modern ideas, but good enough.

After a couple of months wandering around the mountains alone, enjoying the hunting and fishing and always awe-struck by the gigantic and glorious scenery, I ran across an old mountain man. Bill Andrews, like many old pioneers, hailed originally from Pike County, Missouri. He had left there when a boy, and since then there were few spots along the Continental Divide from Mexico to Alaska he had not hunted or prospected. To Bill, or "Bones" as he was more commonly called, I owe most of my knowledge of mountaintcraft. He started a young tenderfoot off right.

Bones was a hunter and prospector. Mostly he hunted and his gold pan usually came in for the baking of bannocks. I just hunted. But the time eventually came when we ran out of my 200-odd pounds of grub, and were living on meat straight. There is nothing particularly hard about that. You get along just as well, better health and energy in fact, as on a mixed diet. But mentally you are always thinking how good some bread and butter, jam or prunes, or some corn meal mush would taste. So one day Bones said he knew of a mining camp about seventy miles to the south of us that would buy deer meat, and he proposed that we turn market hunters for a while until we could get cash enough for a long trip into the North that we had been talking about. In those days miners were permitted to kill game for food, and each of us had



"I was hunting around Moccasin Billy's cabin"

a "Free Miners License." The sportsmanship and the ethics of it did not loom up. We were broke and we needed the money, the country was full of deer, and there was a mine that would pay ten cents a pound. So we started out on a plan to recoup our fortunes in a month. We had four pack horses, mule deer were plentiful, and the meat would keep perfectly in the dry, cool air if protected from flies in the daytime and hung out to cool at night. About every ten days we were able to pack five or six hundred pounds down to the mine. One trip to the mine was enough for me. I hated the contrast after the beautiful clean mountains. Bones had an old partner named Moccasin Billy living in a cabin about 40 miles from the mine and it suited him perfectly to have an occasional trip to town, leaving me at the cabin until they returned.

By this time I had learned that my .30-30 was a much better game gun than my .40-72 black-powder rifle. It killed just as well, was more accurate, and had a flatter trajectory. More to the point, it weighed only eight pounds, while the .40-72 with its special No. 3 barrel tipped the scales at eleven pounds—quite a difference when the land stood on edge and there were lots of little creeks that could be jumped with the .30-30, but had to be forded with the .40-72. Every once in a while I would take a shot at a tree to verify sight adjustment, and I seldom missed an animal, nor did the rifle fail to kill well on deer, sheep and goats. As a result of that experience I have never felt the contempt for the .30-30 cartridge that so many of our modern writers hold. In those days the cartridges were loaded with a 160-grain bullet at 1960 f.-s. —not nearly so powerful as the modern .30-30.

But to get back to our market hunting venture. I was hunting around Moccasin Billy's cabin, and he and Bones were taking a load of meat to the mine. That morning I started out to have a try at the range that lay to the northwest, where a big peak loomed up. You can see it in the photograph. So I climbed to the top of the peak. When I got there I found it was only a knoll standing out in front of a much larger mountain in the rear. There was a saddle between my knoll and the big mountain, and I guessed it to be about three hundred yards across. As you can see in the photograph the mountains were sparsely forested with Western yellow pine, and there was little to impede vision.

As I stood looking across the saddle I noticed a movement on the big mountain, and made out three deer coming down in single file. It took only an instant to run my arm through the sling and flop down on the pine-needle-covered firing point into the steady prone position. I held at the top of the backs of the deer to allow for the drop of the bullets. There was a lot of jumping around, and I could not see any too well, but every time I got a clear view I fired. After the ninth shot things quit moving so I got up and went over to see what I had done. There were the three deer piled up within a few yards of

each other. It was the gun sling, the steady prone position, and a good rifle sighted to precision that had done it. As the average hunter of those days would have attempted it—open sights, factory adjustment, no sling, rifle butt-plate—I think such shooting would have been impossible.

In 1906 I got forty days' leave, and again visited my old stamping grounds in British Columbia. I went with two of my friends, promising to show them some good hunting. This was the first time I ever hunted with guides. We had two of them and an Indian cook. It



"The goat was on the cliff in the left center. It was 'plum dangerous,' but we made it all right"

makes a lot of difference. I could hunt all the time and did not have to spend about half my time cooking, packing, and hunting strayed horses. I was fresh from a season's shooting on the Army Infantry Rifle Team, and in fine form. My rifle was a .30-40 Winchester Single Shot, the most accurate arm I knew of at that time. I was using a Peters 220-grain soft-point bullet, and 36.5 grains of Laflin and Rand "W-A" powder. The muzzle velocity was 2100 f.-s. The Lyman sights were adjusted for 150 yards, and the bullet struck 3 inches low at 200 yards.

One snowy morning, hunting up a narrow valley in the range, I interrupted quite a bunch of mule deer that were crossing: all does and fawns except the last one which was a big buck with a magnificent set of antlers. It did not take me long to swing the front sight on his shoulder and squeeze off. At the shot he was off, full speed ahead. I fired two more shots, one of which landed. That buck's head now adorns the wall of my den above the desk at which I am now writing. When you are used to a good single-shot rifle it is by no means too slow for successful rapid-fire at deer, though the hands must be warm.

Several weeks later I was exploring a wonderful box cañon. The Indians called it Salina Cañon because at its entrance two enormous rocks make a perfect head of a great horned owl. I climbed over on the sidewall to have a good look at the rocks, and as I stood there I heard a stone fall above. There was a big billy goat, probably a hundred yards straight above me. When I fired it let go all holds and landed within five yards of me, shot right



"When we reached him he was too far gone to need another shot"

through the chest from below. Those long 220-grain .30-40 bullets usually went entirely through even as tough an animal as a goat. I have always thought that this bullet was a much more effective game killer in the .30-40 than any of the lighter bullets at much higher velocity.

I want now to shift the scene to the main range of the Rockies about 200 miles south of Prace River. Stanley Clark and I were coming down the valley of a big creek with our little packtrain, traveling on a bench above the creek. Stanley was in the lead and I was in its rear driving the animals along. Suddenly I saw him throw up one hand, jump off his horse, and beckon me frantically to come up. I grabbed my rifle out of its scabbard and ran to him. "See that bull moose down there in the creek?" he said. "It's too far for me, but see if you can get him. You'll have to kill him quick. If he gets in those jack pines on the other side we'll never find him." This time I was armed with my old Lyman-sighted sporting Springfield, and shooting the Western cartridge 180-grain open-point boat-tail bullet. I sat down on the edge of the bench, sling on my arm, dug my heels in, held for the top of the back above the shoulder, and let drive. I heard the bullet plunk in, and the bull started to collapse, but before he had gotten quite down I hit him again. Stanley cried "Gosh! Don't kill him so quick; it'll be the devil of a job getting him out of that water." We paced the distance afterwards and it was almost 325 yards. I have never seen any bullet kill better than that one did. With it I have gotten grizzly, moose, caribou, sheep, goat and deer, with never a failure. New bullets come out every few years, but for my part nothing could be much better than that old Western boat-tail that has now had twenty years of successful performance back of it.

The first game I bagged with that bullet was a goat, perhaps the most difficult of all Rocky Mountain game to kill cleanly. To the west of my camp was a high snow-

capped range, and to reach timberline on it I had to cross about two miles of foothills. Getting close to the range, I ascended one of these little hills on the top of which there was a little pocket. I never expected to see game there, and must not have been alert. Anyhow, as I topped the rise and looked down into the pocket there was a goat munching some tall yellow flowers that were growing in great profusion all over the hills. Before I could collect myself he trotted off over the other rim of the pocket. I followed as fast as I could, but when I topped the ridge he was out of sight. Going on quickly I finally spied him way up in the rocks completely out of range. The only way to get close was to work up a sharp snow-covered ridge that ran toward the cliffs. This I did, keeping the crest of the ridge between the goat and myself. The ridge kept getting steeper and steeper and finally sharpened into a regular arete with a dangerous snow cornice. I did not dare go any farther, and it was still a long way to the goat, but I decided I would have to chance the shot from where I was. I heard the bullet smack into him, he started to fall, then pulled himself up and very slowly moved behind a rock and out of sight. At this instant Stanley, who had left camp after me, came up, having tracked me through the snow. "Now what are you going to do?" he said. "It's going to be an awful job getting over there. I guess we will have to go around the mountain and try to climb the cliff from the other side."

"Stanley," I said, "do you suppose we can get across this ridge? It will save us a couple of miles."

"Perhaps we can make it if we keep well back from that cornice and kick good footholds in the snow, but it's plum dangerous."

Well, we made it, and it was "plum dangerous," all right. The photograph taken from where I fired shows what we had to cross. You can judge for yourself. The goat was on the cliff in the left center of the picture. When we got over to him he was so far gone that another shot was not necessary.

Later on in a fog, really a cloud above timberline, I came on the tracks of a grizzly—just wandering here and there digging roots and on the lookout for ground squirrels. Following the tracks around in circles for a few minutes and getting nowhere, I decided that the only thing to do was to hunt upwind on the chance of coming onto the bear. At first my field of vision was only about a hundred yards. Then the cloud began to go down, the top of the mountain appeared, and I could see two hundred yards. Behold, there stood the bear. It was the quickest kind of a snapshot. She (for it proved to be a female) let out a bawl, put her head between her paws, and rolled into the cloud and out of sight. Racing down after her, I found her doubled up, dead as a mackerel.

In recent years I have been hunting with more modern rifles than those I have described above. But as luck would have it my game shots with these have all been remarkably easy. However, from the experience of my friends, as well as from my own range tests, I have formed some ideas as to modern game rifles which I give you for what they are worth.

My favorite big-game rifle for the past fifteen years has been a .270 Winchester Model 54, fitted with a 2 1/4-power Zeiss Zielklein scope with Griffin & Howe mount. Five years ago I had the bolt handle turned down, mount lowered, and a side safety fitted, thus practically turning

it into a Model 70. I also had John Hutton restock it with a very tight bedding and high Monte Carlo comb. It is a very fine rifle under practically any conditions. I have shot only one moose and two deer with it, all at close range, and all with one shot each. At boulders in my pasture at unknown distances I find I can make surer hits at longer ranges than with any other rifle I own. If I were off to the wilderness tomorrow I would take this rifle with me. It does its best work with a hand load consisting of the 130-grain Western Tool & Copper Works bullet and 49 grains of duPont No. 4320 powder. In factory ammunition I have found the Winchester cartridge loaded with 130-grain pointed expanding bullet to be the best.

But for an all-around rifle here in the East, for deer and black bear, and to be used on chucks, crows, and hawks in closed season I would unquestionably choose the Winchester Model 70 or the new Remington Model 720 in .257 Roberts caliber, also with a big-game scope. In fact, if I had to tie down to just one rifle for good and all I would take this because of its all-around qualities. I would use the 117-grain bullet for deer and bear, the 100-grain for varmints and a light, sharp-pointed lead bullet for squirrels and grouse.

In my opinion the finest long-range big-game rifle is the Winchester Model 70 Target Rifle in .300 H. & H. Magnum caliber. It weighs 10½ pounds. A lighter rifle for this same cartridge, the standard at 8 pounds, will not, I think, have sufficient accuracy for sure hitting at long range. You have all the disadvantages of a light rifle overcharged. The light rifle would be all right up to 250 yards, but beyond that you want finer accuracy than it will give, and the only reason I can see for the .300 Magnum is to enable you to hit and kill beyond 300 to 350 yards, which is about the sure hitting range of the .270 and .30-'06.

What about the .30-'06? It is never a mistake if you will give it an accuracy test with the ammunition you propose to use in it and see for yourself that the accuracy comes up to what you demand. It is difficult to get good, accurate .30-'06 ammunition right now, and there are a lot of mediocre .30-'06 sporting rifles lying around waiting for a buyer. A first-class sporting Springfield that a reputable gunsmith has charged around a hundred dollars to remodel is usually a dream. Those remodeled at much lower cost are very likely to be mediocre. I would much rather take a Winchester 70 or Remington 30 or 720 in its factory stock. You can get .30-'06 ammunition powerful enough for anything, but it is not as easy to get loads that will be sure hitting on sheep at 350 yards. It is a very poor chuck and varmint cartridge.

I am not much of a believer in wildcat or custom made car-

tridges. The scientific laboratories of the big arms companies have not worked out pressures, maximum loads, proper anneal for the cases or exact headspace. They are perhaps all right if you can afford to spend a year working with them in a locality where good gunsmiths are at your beck and call to help you get everything tuned up to your taste and thoroughly tested. But don't take a custom built rifle for a wildcat cartridge into the wilderness until you know that it is right in every respect.

There are a lot of good old rifles to be had—even the old and much despised .30-30 if it is accurate and has good sights and a shotgun butt. As I have tried to show, given a fairly good rifle, no matter what its age, success depends mainly on marksmanship. To be a successful hunter one has to be a good all-around shot, good at slow-fire, snap shooting and rapid-fire in all the positions. Particularly in the forested East and Northeast the great majority of your chances will call for snap shooting standing, quick shots at short range, and the greater part of your practice should be devoted to this form of shooting. Practice unlocking your rifle quickly and silently, throwing it to your shoulder so as to have it align on or nearly on the target; move the front sight well onto the shoulder, and time your squeeze so the rifle will discharge as soon as the sight is well into the brown. Using Lyman hunting sights, largest aperture—no disc, cultivate the habit of aiming with the front sight only, the eye instinctively centering the front sight in the aperture, but without your being conscious of it, and with no time-consuming delay.

In the West and Northwest, and on very rare occasions in other places on the top of a ridge, or on a lake shore, you may have a chance to lie down or sit, and to make absolutely sure of your shot, use the gun sling.

Never adjust your sights in the field. They should be adjusted beforehand to such a distance as best takes advantage of the trajectory. With the .30-'06 for example, set the sights for 200 yards. Your rifle then overshoots 2 inches at a hundred, and undershoots 9 inches at 300 yards. Simply hold a little high at the longer ranges. Never look at your rifle in the presence of game—keep your eyes on the game. You should be able to handle your rifle by feel alone, and the only part of it you should see when making a shot is the front sight silhouetted on the shoulder of the beast. Don't think about anything but game—don't think about wind unless it is blowing so hard that it is literally shrieking in your ear. Hold on the

windy side of the animal! Indeed, if you have been shooting small bore, and a little .30 caliber, as almost all N. R. A. members do, and then if you will just practice a little snap shooting offhand, you can dependably get your game. Hitting big game really is ridiculously easy compared to keeping all of your shots well in that elusive 10-ring.



"... a cover nine feet square was my only shelter"

MARKSMANSHIP IN REVERSE

An incident of the Spanish Civil War



SHROUDED IN MYSTERY are these pictures of trench warfare during the Spanish Civil War of 1936-39. Reputed to have been found in camera of slain soldier, no authenticating facts are known. Real or not, they offer sound argument for value of marksmanship versus untrained mass fire, regardless of weapon used. Originals are in possession of Stuart D. Ludlum of New York City.



Lone enemy fighter peers over crest of hill, within easy range of machine gun



Rifleman fires, misses, while one machine gunner unrolls ammunition belts



Untouched, fighter pulls pin of grenade, ignoring inaccurate fire of defenders

Back goes left arm of grenadier, "winding up" for throw. Rifleman closes bolt

Rifleman fires again, fails to prevent throwing of grenade at gun crew



Over comes grenade as rifleman ducks to shelter. Unhit, fighter drops behind hill



Explosion of grenade blots out trench in cloud of debris. Rifle remains standing



All three defenders apparently go down on impact of explosion. Meanwhile . . .

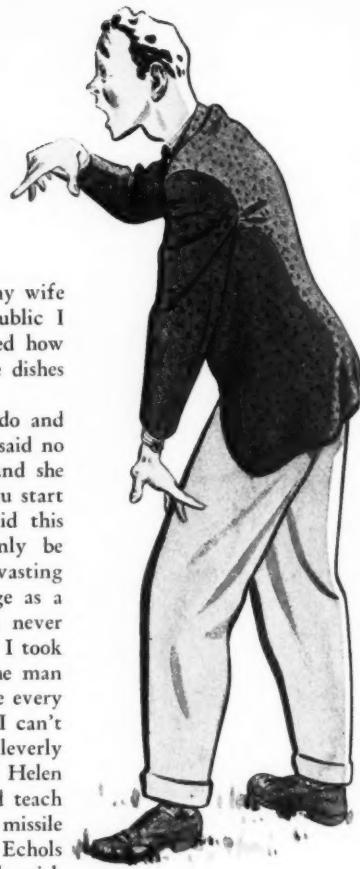


Grenadier, unhit despite rain of fire from trench, peers through still seething smoke and fumes of grenade explosion. Trio of defenders are all out of action, casualties at least, probably dead. Their position may be lost. Moral: *One accurate shot, machine gun or rifle, would have dropped grenade-throwing enemy soldier, saved lives of all three defenders. Marksmanship pays!*





STANCE *is* the THING



AS I AM ALWAYS trying out my new tricks on my wife Helen before I run them on the general public I naturally headed straight for home when I learned how to pull a table cloth off the table, leaving all the dishes intact.

I said Helen Sweets do you know what I can do and she said yes, you can get washed up for lunch. I said no Helen I mean do you know what else I can do and she said no Echols what else can you do—but don't you start any more of your bum jokes around here. I said this one isn't a bum one Helen and you'll not only be astounded but will probably tell me that I am wasting valuable time which should be spent on the stage as a prestidigitator. She said what's that and I said never mind, just stand back from the table a minute and I took hold of the end of the table cloth exactly like the man taught me to do, gave it a healthy yank and broke every dish on it, scattering the Swiss steaks, gravy and I can't remember what all in every direction. After cleverly dodging three well-aimed missiles I said listen Helen Sweets if you won't be mad I'll take you out and teach you how to shoot a pistol and I dodged a fourth missile much better aimed and harder flung. She said Echols can I get my picture in the papers holding hands with

you and grinning like the other women pistol shooters and I said what other women pistol shooters Sweets and she said you know darn well what other ones . . . any other ones who will stand up there and submit to it. I said come on Helen and we went out to the range, leaving the Swiss steak, gravy and everything where it lay.

I said look Helen the squeeze is the most important thing and she said yes, you taught me that when we were going together in high school. I said now here Helen you are going to shoot ten shots slow-fire at twenty-five yards with this .38 caliber revolver. She said all right Echols I'll try it and she humped over the gun like a bird dog over a quail. Look Helen Sweets I said you can't get anywhere with a stance like that. She said oh can't I well I guess Captain Rau of the Infantry gets along all right and he shoots just like this. I said well he's just one man though Helen I said you've got to change around a little. I said that won't do either Helen you're at right angles with your target and should be facing it a little. She said Echols you're just trying to be smart. I've seen Moe Wilson beat you time after time and he stands just like this. I said listen Helen Sweets you've got to use a more orthodox stance I said your feet are too close together and My God you're aiming out of the wrong eye. She said you're not going to get away with either of those complaints she said Al Hemming shoots with his feet together like this and aims out of this eye and from the few casual glances I gave the RIFLEMAN last year it seemed he won a match or two.

I said Helen you've got to be relaxed on the firing line. You've got to joke and carry on in order to keep from getting the buck fever. She said oh no you don't either have you ever seen Major Richards carrying on or joking on the firing line. I said My God Helen Sweets I don't want to seem overbearing but just look at your thumb sticking right straight out. I said it should be laying right alongside the gun barrel and she said Norman Adair shoots like this and so does Gloria Jacobs and I've seen both of them make you look like Ned in the First Reader and with that she cut loose a barrage at the target which sounded like Vincent Coll making his last desperate stand. I said now Helen that's the last straw I said this was supposed to be slow fire I said now what did you go and shoot all five of them in six seconds for. She said Honey the first thing you told me about when you got back from Florida was about how you were shooting alongside of Maurice Lalonde in a slow fire string and how he very deliberately shot five shots, never getting closer to the ten ring than a deep center seven and how he then loaded up five more and rattled out five tens in less than five seconds. I said Helen Sweets I give up. I said you've got me to where I don't even know what's right myself. She said look Echols let's make a deal she said nobody in the family does any pistol shooting but you and under no circumstances does anyone take the dishes off the table but me.

Yours confusedly,

LEE ECHOLS.

The ALL-ROUND GUN

By Major
Charles Askins

*The Proper Scatter-Gun
Can Just About Meet All
Your Requirements. An
Acknowledged Master
Here Lends His Advice*

WHILE THE PRESENT, what I call fad for very light upland guns lasts, perhaps more of these shotguns will be bought than any others. But for all that, the shotgun of more use to more hunters than any other is the general-purpose model. That weapon, known as the all-around gun, the medium-weight gun, the gun that will kill everything in a pinch from bobwhites to geese, is the gun we'll discuss here.

General-purpose guns run heavier in weight—not a great deal heavier—but rarely featherweight, and they are seldom cylinder-bored unless, possibly, in a double gun. I recall having once used a Winchester Model 97 "brush gun," a pump of normal weight bored a perfect cylinder. It was a good quail gun but not adapted to any game save bobwhites, and I soon found the second shot was no good after a missed first barrel. That brush gun could not have been considered a general-purpose arm and to prove it, the full cylinder boring was discontinued by Winchester after a few years. The straight cylinder will queer any one-barrel shotgun intended for general-purpose shooting.

We are talking of that excellent all-purpose gun: the 16, and the weights I've mentioned will of course apply to this bore. I grant readily enough that the 20-gauge and the 12 are also good general-purpose guns, but here I would like to discuss what I believe to be the best gun of the three, the highly versatile 16.

Perhaps an all-around gun for the average shooter might run heavier, or possibly lighter, but the gun I have in mind



should range between $6\frac{3}{4}$ and $7\frac{1}{4}$ pounds. That $7\frac{1}{4}$ -pound gun looks like a weapon that could be used on ducks, in case ducks were flying and we had no better gun at the time. Such an all-around 16-gauge would easily shoot the heaviest load that could be had in the gauge. The reader can surmise all that when we mention the game which the big 16 would kill: quail, ruffed grouse, snipe, Hungarian partridge, pheasants, chickens, ducks and geese. It wouldn't be the best duck gun made, but in the course of events might kill more ducks than the big Magnums. Why? Simply because it would be in the hands of more shooting men. The big duck guns are intended for men who make a specialty of duck shooting, but the all-around shotgun, the 16-gauge if you will, takes everything in its stride, not failing on anything that flies, unless it flies too far away.

General-purpose guns are usually modified choke, which may well be regarded as the standard all-purpose choke, especially in pump guns. Sometimes this also happens to be true of double guns. One of the best killing guns I ever shot had 30-inch barrels. It was a Smith, modified in both tubes. I used it on snipe, prairie chickens, occasionally on ducks, and now and then on bobwhites. Another 16 that I shoot very well is a Winchester Model 12. This gun, running about 7 pounds, modified choke, will kill blue quail at 50 yards—very rarely, but sometimes at 60 yards—and is a staunch favorite of mine.

My hunting mate, also a believer in the 16-gauge gen-

eral-purpose, uses a modified choke, an Ithaca pump, which startled us when we took its patterns. We swore the gun must be full choke when shooting it with Lubaloy 7½ shot. The barrel was not marked with the degree of choke but had been sent me as a modified 28-inch barrel. When we shot it with one ounce of chilled shot we decided that it was really a modified barrel.

Now why all this target shooting with a shotgun? It is partly for our own information, of course, but it is largely by way of encouraging a man to learn his gun. Buying a gun and then never taking a pattern with it, is a good deal like purchasing a high-priced book and never reading it. This thing of trying to shoot birds at 40 yards with a gun that would not kill at over 25 yards would not occur if a man had seen for himself just what his gun would do with the load he meant to use, at distances of 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 yards. Yes, I know, a hunter can tell a good deal about a gun by shooting game with it, but he can't tell as much as he used to 30 or 40 years ago. Most of us old-timers easily remember when we killed 40 ducks or 25 quail a day. Now, possibly the limit on the game we have to shoot is 3 grouse or 2 pheasant. Today we kill them—not a bird missed; the next time afield we miss the whole three, while apparently holding just the same as before. That might be for the reason that we do not know the book which is our gun.

The reasons for missing which are obvious to all of us are wrong leads and faulty elevations. Miss a bird and we will say to ourselves, "I overshot that scamp," or maybe it was holding under. . . . If it is a passing bird and he shows no indication of being hit, we are pretty certain to think, "didn't lead him enough." I recall one day when I was a bit off on doves. I gave one what I thought was the right lead, and didn't touch him. The next one I gave a little more lead, and he didn't stop—still more, and the dove never wavered. On the following bird I cut the lead in half and the dove was killed in the air. This kind of thing applies to all of us. Nine times in ten we say not enough lead when it might be too much lead all the time. That is not the whole story either, for it might be holes in the pattern. Every faulty diagnosis leads to more missing, bound to, and no wonder that we never learn to shoot as well as we should.

Another reason for not learning to shoot as reliably and as quickly as we ought to is recoil. Recoil does things to a gun that we never suspect, particularly to a light gun with a heavy charge. Something of this can be learned by shooting at a fixed target. For example we shoot at a paper target, first fixing the feet, next balancing the body perfectly, next fitting the cheek to comb and looking down the sights. If that gun is heavy enough for the charge we will hit the target right about the center. But if the gun is a 12-gauge, weighing 6½ pounds, and the load is 3¼ drams, 1¼ ounces, a favorite load of ours, the load may kick us all over the target. If anyone says such things do not happen afield, be skeptical.

Now we are to give an account of the target getting of certain guns, merely adding that distances were measured, staked, and the muzzle of the gun held exactly even with the stake.

The Winchester Model 12, in 16 gauge, Super X, Lubaloy 7½ shot, has a 28-inch barrel, raised rib, and is modified. The piece is from six to eight years old and has been shot a great deal. The gun had been shot steadily, nearly every day, and had more or less lead in it,

which did not help patterns. It is really a general-purpose arm, and has been used largely for dove shooting, for blue quail in the mesquite thickets of Texas and for such ducks as I have shot. It was a good snipe gun in Oklahoma. This Winchester fits me, and is generally with me when I go afield or to the river. It weighs 7 pounds and doesn't kick off the mark.

We decided that there was no use starting this gun under 30 yards, so it was shot from that mark. The pattern as counted was 359, or 93%. The charge, as for other guns in this article, was 390 pellets. The next range was 35 yards, pattern 347, 89%; pattern very even. The last range for the Winchester, 40 yards, pattern 320, 82%. That was all the work for the Winchester 16, Model 12. We knew it was a good gun and were satisfied with its patterns, considering the modified barrel.

The succeeding piece was an Ithaca Model 37 pump about which we were curious. It has a 28-inch barrel, is modified choke, and weighs no more than 6½ pounds with three shells in it. The boy shot it largely at the beginning of quail season and killed most of his scaled quail with it, although he later changed to a Browning over-under which did not kick so much. This gun impressed us and the patterns made are more or less a mystery to us yet, considering the light weight and the modified barrel. My own opinion is that it was shooting the best ammunition ever put in a shotgun. What would you think of a modified barrel that shot 78% at 40 yards? We decided it was a full-choke barrel that Ithaca had failed to so mark.

We started this gun at 25 yards, knowing that plenty of shots are taken at that distance. Pattern 374, 96%. Stepping back to 30 yards, the pattern was 359, 92%. The pattern drifted off to the right a few inches but not off the 48-inch square paper, so we got the 30-inch pattern. The third pattern was at 40 yards, and that was where I went back and sat down. The pattern 304, 78%. The fourth pattern was taken at 45 yards, pattern 249, 64%. That pattern would surely have killed quail and probably ducks. What is the use of a full-choked gun if a modified gun will shoot like that? The answer is you might not have the same ammunition.

I am partial to the long barrel, you see, and have no intention of changing. Bill Coleman came along here with two Parker 28-gauge guns, one of them a beautiful piece costing \$750, the other \$500, which need not have been mentioned except that each of these guns had a 32-inch barrel. Bill killed crows with those guns the same as if they had been 8 gauges instead of 28. The reason as I got it, was the high velocity of the 32-inch barrel.

We got back to our testing, using as before the 16-gauge Super-X load. This time we fired a custom-built Ithaca double, built for me about ten years ago. This gun was a Number 5 Ejector and everything had been done for it they knew how to do for a shotgun. I'd often wanted a shotgun with a cheekpiece, which I thought would be smoother to the cheek. I got it. The rib was raised and ventilated, a perfectly flat rib, with two ivory sights on it. It had a single trigger which I insisted should pull at 3½ pounds precisely, both barrels. Barrels were 30 inches long, both as close as they could be choked. That is one of the finest-shooting shotguns that anybody ever did make!

We did not think it worth while to shoot this particular gun at a shorter distance than 40 yards. Both barrels were shot at this distance, the right patterning 312, 80%; the

left, 304, 78%. Other guns have patterned 80% at 40 yards, but at the next step back to 45 yards the left barrel patterned another 312, or 80%. Few guns will do that, and it may have been a fluke, since we did not try it again at 45 yards. At the 50-yard peg we shot both barrels. The right patterned 242, 62%; the left, 238, 61%. I did not know what a gun ought to do at 50 yards, and I suspect the cartridge and gun factories do not know, either.

Next we switched to the Ithaca No. 5 Ejector, 1 ounce chilled $7\frac{1}{2}$; 30 yards, left barrel 88%, right barrel 89%; 35 yards, right barrel 89%, left barrel 84%; 40 yards, right barrel 74%, left barrel 76%.

The Winchester pump was my choice, six to eight years ago, for general use, shooting invariably $1\frac{1}{8}$ ounces of shot. I was satisfied then that I could do no better, considering that with a full choke gun, I probably would not have killed so many birds as with a modified piece. I had to consider my own skill, as a factor not to be ignored. If I could kill, fairly often, a bird with a modified choke that I'd miss with a full choke, then that was that. The fact that the gun with Lubaloy shot threw a full-choked pattern need not cause us to believe that a full-choked barrel 30 inches long,



in a gun weight of $7\frac{1}{4}$ pounds would not have thrown closer patterns.

The Ithaca was notable in the 16 pump model for the remarkable difference in the patterns with the Lubaloy cartridge of $1\frac{1}{8}$ ounces and the standard load of an ounce. With the big load of Lubaloy shot, that lightweight Ithaca shot as good full-choked patterns as anybody could ask, while with the one ounce of shot which the gun was supposed to shoot, patterns were modified. There you have a very light gun, with a choice of patterns which will take ducks at 45 yards, given the right size of shot, or with 1 ounce of shot will be effective for all kinds of upland birds.

The old Ithaca double gun which I had shot for so many years with 1 ounce of shot, mostly on quail and snipe, proved to be with the $1\frac{1}{8}$ -ounce load really better than modified with either barrel. With the 1-ounce load, however, it shot pretty much as I remembered it some 25 years before.

The last gun used in this general-purpose gun test was the Ithaca No. 5 Ejector, weight $7\frac{1}{4}$ pounds. We started this gun with the Lubaloy $1\frac{1}{8}$ -ounce load at 40 yards, it being full-choke in both barrels. The average at 40 yards was 80%, right barrel; left barrel ran 78% average. At 45 yards patterns were remarkably good, the average left barrel 79%, pattern count 308. At 50 yards, the average on five patterns ran 62%, pattern count 242.



THE POLICE OFFICER'S GUN

WHY D.-A. SHOOTING?

WHILE DOUBLE-ACTION SHOOTING is only of minor importance in the standard target-shooting game, it nevertheless may well play a major role in the police officer's work. The deliberate, carefully aimed shot in line of duty, fired as in a target match, may well have its effect, but the second and third and fourth shots in the heat of a gun battle will only naturally fall back on double-action shooting, provided the officer has any background substantiating double-action accuracy.

Lovers of the revolver say that in no respect is the automatic superior to the former, except when it comes to extra-rapid fire. With a little knowledge and practice the double-action revolver can be fired just as fast as any auto pistol and, fired at a speed of six shots a second, maintain a reasonable amount of accuracy.

In shooting double-action the usual way, it is impossible for the shooter to pair the two chief factors of the problem: accuracy and speed. He will have speed without accuracy or accuracy without speed, and no amount of training will correct this hopeless stage visibly. Why? Because the recoil of the gun cannot be stopped by holding the arm rigid, as the river cannot be stopped by simply building a dam. Water will not go back but will find its way out, and so it is with a gun. The gun butt during recoil, in meeting the stiff arm, jumps out of the grip one way or another following the lines of least resistance. Shooting this way with a speed of even four shots a second is impossible, for after each shot the grip will be so loosened that its correction needs time. To continue shooting with a loosened hold means not only the enlargement of the group but clean misses on the target.

What, therefore is the correct method of extra-rapid double-action shooting? Since the recoil cannot be stopped, the shooter must provide a regular channel for this purpose and direct the kick-back of the gun into this channel. The hardest recoil then, will not interfere with his shooting. This channel will be the upward motion of the gun in line with the forearm. You shoot the first shot quite normally, only use double-action. After the explosion occurs, let the recoil move your hand and the gun upward as far as it can. The forearm joint acts as the hinges of this motion. The forearm, hand and gun must be locked to form one unit.

When starting this method do not try for speed at once. Start slowly and learn to take the recoil properly and to pull the trigger in time. At first you will be overshooting a bit, but once you catch the swing of it, the trigger pull will be completed at the right moment without the thought of it. If everything goes smoothly you can speed up a little, remembering the grip of the gun should be easy. A tight grip spoils accuracy considerably. At first the group of six shots will be quite long but almost in line. After the shooter catches the up-and-down rhythm of the gun in quick fire, he will be able to reduce the group vertically.

Six shots in a second are possible on the Colt Silhouette target at twelve yards and not only hits will be registered, but there will be a group much smaller than the size of the target requires. Also the shifting of aim is easy and done in no time.

When circumstances do not call for extremely fast shooting the distance can be larger and the target smaller. It would not be a good plan, however, to begin double-action shooting with the regulation target at 25 yards. First, learn the tricks of the game on the distance and target first mentioned, where the greatest speed is essential, and then try the ten-second work at regular target and distance. It should be easy after the first stage is perfected.

It is better to start practice with a gun giving a good amount of recoil. Of course, every modern revolver is adaptable for accurate double-action shooting but I suggest the Police Positive Special because big recoil in this little gun exaggerates all the mistakes of the beginner for his own observation, and therefore lends itself to quicker correction.—JERZY BRATMAN.

CLEANING THE SIX-SHOOTER

The police officer, whose very life may depend on the reliable functioning of his weapon at some critical moment, cannot possibly overlook the importance of keeping his service revolver cleared of debris and rust. All that is required is a little attention. Methods and material are relatively unimportant as compared with the real importance of periodic examination and regular attention. Once thoroughly cleaned, oiled and lubricated and then carried untouched, the gun may merely need a monthly wiping with a piece of woolskin, sheepskin or woolen cloth impregnated with a good rust inhibitor. On the other hand, if it is used frequently and therefore viewed weekly, a frequent thin surface coating of the cleaning oil should hold it against surface rusting. The longer the period of disuse or neglect the more thorough must be the cleaning and the better must be the protective qualities of the oil or grease selected as the inhibitor. Once a month, the maximum allowable neglect even when oil-proof cartridges are used, the gun should be emptied by shooting to prove its continued ability to function properly. Barrel and all chambers should be cleaned of lead and powder fouling and lightly greased and oiled.

Lead can easily be removed with a brass brush. If this brush is dipped in the cleaning solvent first, a couple of drying patches will finish the job, provided this is followed by the heavy oil or light grease inhibitor applied with a clean patch, woolen swab or a bristle brush.

Between the protruding barrel breech and frame is a lodging place for lead shavings and fouling. This irregular area can be easily cleaned with the bristle brush and solvent. The same treatment should be applied to the cylinder ratchets and to the remaining corners inside the frame and crane. Once or twice a year the lock plates and crane screw should also be removed and the action parts cleaned of gummed oil and dirt with solvent, brush and cloth.

After cleaning and wiping the action parts, all pivots, bearings and parts which rub or are subjected to friction should be lubricated with a non-gumming oil. If or while the gun is used in a frigid climate, or in a sand-blown area like the "Dust Bowl" it is a good and practical idea to use dry graphite in lieu of a greasy lubricant in the action. This is especially true of clip magazines for auto-loading pistols.—E. K. MUIR.

Any Alibis?

Thrashing out the woes of the handgunner . . . for August our champion discusses—

LICKING THE WIND PROBLEM

SHOOTING IN THE WIND during match competition is one of the greatest problems for even the accomplished handgunner, and yet I am sure there is no "cure-all" technique I can offer which will surely lead to high scores on a windy day. And, what's more, I think all leading pistol experts will agree that in such shooting the matter of luck enters into the making of a good score in the wind more than on a calm day when it is largely a matter of "holding and squeezing." One thing is certain, in my observations, and that is the fact that these Master shooters all vary their technique slightly when called upon to face such conditions. We can probably learn a great deal by watching such shooters attempting to maintain a high average under unfavorable circumstances.

The most important thing about wind shooting at the slow-fire stage is a STOP WATCH. I believe in waiting out the wind, and with a stop watch you know exactly how much time you are consuming and can wait out the better, knowing that you won't be late in getting your shots away. I believe that good scores can be fired in practically timed fire cadence at 50 yards.

If the wind is gusty you may frequently find it possible to fire your five shots during a comparatively quiet spell—if you wait for that quiet spell. Instead of holding your gun in the aiming position for long periods of time trying to get a shot off, wait for a time when the wind seems to be subsiding and then start your aim. If you are lucky you will find that just as your aim settles down in the spot you are accustomed to, the wind has let up and you are shooting in momentary calm.

When you catch such a quiet period fire more than one shot even though the range is 50 yards. While your score will not be as good as you hope to make on a calm day, if you shoot in timed-fire cadence at 50 yards your total will be a lot better than if you fire half or more in the wind.

Even on days when the wind seems to be blowing quite steadily you will probably notice that there are times when it is much less than at others. The idea now is to take as much advantage as possible of these calmer times. If you wait until the wind has completely died away before aiming, some of that precious few minutes (more likely it will be seconds rather than minutes) will be lost. Note the direction from which the wind is blowing—watch a clump of trees or high grass well over in that direction and as you see these calm down, start your aim. As the calm area reaches you the gun will have steadied down and you can get off one or two shots at least, if not an entire string of five.

While it may be your habit to hold the gun loosely and not to have much stiffness in either the shoulder or elbow when shooting in calm conditions, try holding in the wind with a good firm grip on the gun and a much stiffer feeling

in both elbow and shoulder. I grip the gun with my fingers firmly around the handle, and fairly tight. I don't use any special grips on any of my guns for I find that the factory grips suit me quite well. They are smaller and better for me to handle; I use the click sights on my .38 and for my type of shooting I find that they are perfect. However, if the wind is blowing steady and there is no let-up, and I find that the wind is drifting my shots a little to the right or left, depending which way the wind is blowing, I don't click my sights to allow for the drift of the bullet. If the wind is blowing from the left I hold below the black and slightly to the left. However, if I am holding that way and the wind suddenly lets up, I merely move under the black and squeeze the trigger. It may be all right to let your arm sway normally on a calm day, but to prevent excessive sway due to wind, try stiffening your muscles from shoulder to hand.

Shooting in the wind also requires a different stance. Unless you are one of those who practically face the target full front under all conditions try standing more parallel to the target than is your habit. This applies particularly when shooting in either a three or nine o'clock wind. By coming around and more completely facing the target you expose less body surface to the wind and therefore reduce that sway in the body which is directly transmitted to the gun. When a wind from six or twelve o'clock is blowing, face away from the target, in order to expose less body surface. In this way you also gain the effect of bracing your legs against the wind. This leg-bracing can be increased if you spread your feet slightly farther apart than usual.

If the wind is blowing be careful about the clothes you wear to the firing line. See that they are tight-fitting, and are not going to "belly" out in the wind like a boat sail and sway you all over the target. Even a loose sleeve will add materially to the amount of sway noticeable in the wind. Usually it will be cool when the wind is blowing and if that is the case see to it that you are dressed warm enough not to chill. Otherwise part of that "wind sway" may be caused by shivering.

One fault we all have to a greater or lesser degree is lack of practice in the wind. It is only human to wish to make good scores—even in practice—and there doesn't seem to be anything easier to do than to stay home from the range on a windy day. My advice is to go right out in it and learn first-hand how to shoot in the wind. After all, none of these things may be just the answer for you, or you may discover new ways to overcome the effects of the breezes that always seem to blow for the pistol shooters. Don't be afraid to shoot when it blows or rains, for sooner or later you will attend a match where the conditions aren't good, and you will have to fire right along with the others. If you haven't experienced these conditions in practice you will not know what to do. I am not saying that you will be able to overcome the effects of wind through practicing in it, nor that your scores will be as good as you make on calm days, but Brother—you'll learn.

Paul Spavor.

FOR GREATER ACCURACY IN PISTOL SHOOTING—USE AMMUNITION SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR MATCH PISTOL EVENTS!

Targetmaster cartridges were especially developed to give the utmost in accuracy, uniformity, and dependability for match pistol shooting. In some test groups of 10 shots each fired with "Targetmaster" pistol ammunition at a range of 50 yards, a .45 automatic gave one group with an extreme spread of 1.5 inches, and two others measuring 1.3 at the widest points. A .38 special produced groups having extreme spreads of 1.1 inches, 0.7 inches, and 1.0 inches. .32 S. & W. longs made groups having extreme spreads of 1.7 inches, 1.2 inches, and 1.8 inches. These tests were only a part of the daily inspecting, testing and checking that Remington car-

ries on to keep Targetmaster pistol ammunition up to the high standards for which it is famous.

Targetmaster .22's are uniformly loaded with fast-burning powder, which assures more complete combustion in the short length of pistol and revolver barrels. This fast-burning powder also reduces muzzle flash, which is especially objectionable indoors or in rapid-fire shooting. Targetmaster centerfire match cartridges are smooth-functioning and specially oil proofed to protect them against the damaging effects of gun oil. They also have Remington's exclusive Kleanbore priming, which gives fast, snappy ignition, guards against rust and corrosion, and makes cleaning of the bore unnecessary. These ace match pistol cartridges are the champions that make and break new records every year. .45 Automatic, .38 Special (with wad-cutter or round nose bullet), .32 S & W Long, and Police Targetmaster .22 long rifle make up the complete Targetmaster line.



POSSIBLES and IMPOSSIBLES

by FRANK L. KAHR

Just back from the Pacific Coast and the Northwest where we met a lot of old friends and enjoyed some very fine samples of Western and Northwestern hospitality. Those boys, and the girls too, certainly miss no opportunity to make a fellow enjoy himself to the limit. While we took in some of the big June shoots, such as the Regional at Portland and the registered shoots at Kellogg, Idaho, and Medford, Oregon, we did manage to snag a few trout, took a lot of pictures, and surveyed a great deal of Oregon, Washington and California from the air.

Almost forgot to mention that I took in one of the biggest "4-H Club" Camps ever held in this country. I saw over a thousand boys and girls receive instruction in rifle shooting. Their ages ranged from about 15 to 18. If the interest shown by these youngsters is any index, then I would say that rifle shooting is bound to become a part of the "4-H Club" activities in Oregon. Incidentally, the "4-H Club" is a grand movement and deserves the support of everyone who wishes to see our boys and girls become better citizens. It is doing a swell job on making them thoroughly familiar with firearms and how to use them.

As more and more Model 37 target rifles come into general use on the rifle range, we naturally hear about rifle performance. To be perfectly frank there are practically no complaints about the accuracy of the rifle and we hear that it shoots wonderfully well. However, every now and then one of the boys complains about the new trigger, saying that it doesn't hold to a uniform pull or that it varies, or that the adjustment is faulty. Up in the



Northwest a shooter recently said that in his opinion most of the complaints were due to the owner tinkering with the trigger. He added that the principal trouble was that they doused the trigger mechanism with plenty of oil, grease and whatnot. We have already told you how one shooter at Camp Perry brought his gun in and complained about the trigger. We found the mechanism crammed full of grease. It took the combined efforts of our best service man and a garage attendant with compressed air and gasoline to get that thing cleaned out and then, of course, it functioned as well as ever, at least it did when we left Camp Perry. At any rate Model 37's trigger will give its best performance if you leave it alone and keep oil or grease away from it. In other words it does not have to be oiled. IT SHOULD BE DRIED.

* * *

What a shooter on the firing line up in the Northwest said about his gun and his powder—when he got a shot-full of smoky smoke from nearby barrel—doesn't bear repeating here. We heartily agree. It will be just as glad as everyone else when no more of that type of powder is made.



THE REMINGTON "RANGEMASTER" MODEL 37 HAS EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR HIGHER SCORES!

Meet the Target Rifle that's considered the world's finest . . . built like a fine watch, fully equipped for immediate use on the range

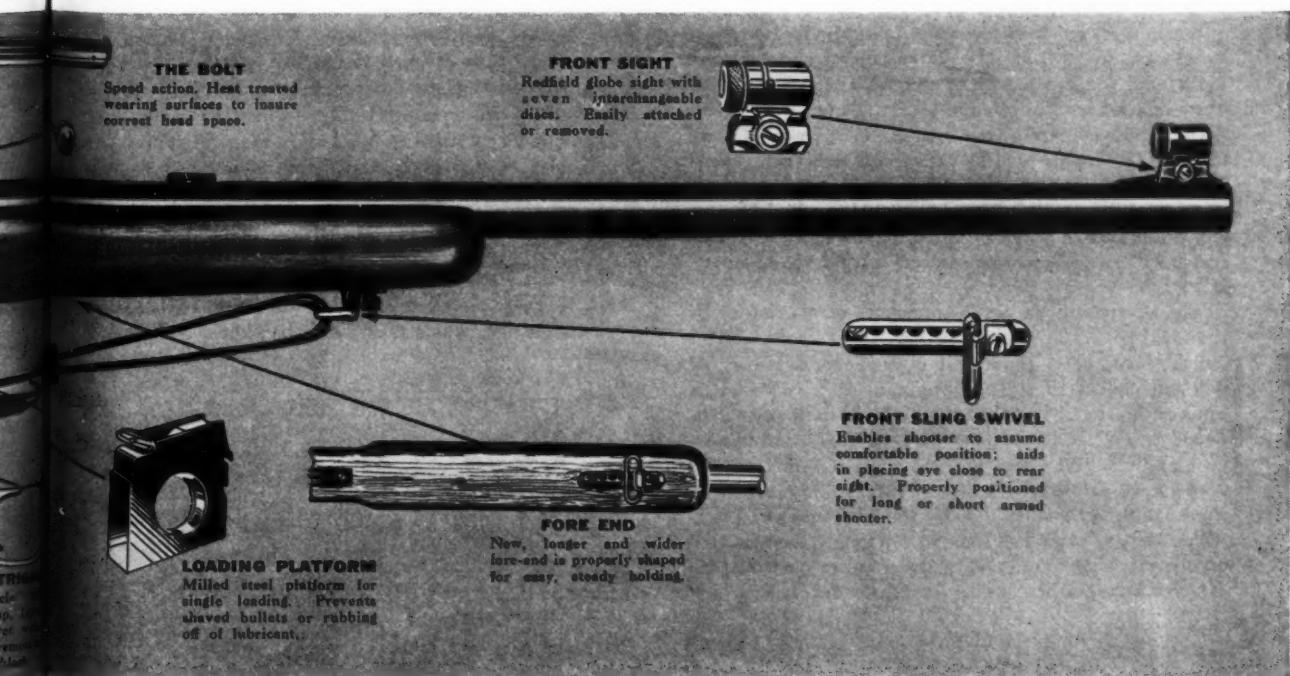
It's a gun that's really at home on the range—for all its qualities add up to better accuracy, and consequently higher scores. It is a consistent winner, since it's "tailor-made" to the needs of the target shooter after exhaustive research. Let's look at this great gun's features: The barrel is carefully bored and rifled for extreme accuracy. This barrel is 27" semi-floating, double countersunk at the muzzle. The 37 has a specially designed stock whose high, thick comb, the position and shape of the pistol grip, and the wide, long forearm aid in sighting and holding, make it comfortable to use. The shooter for both iron and telescopic sights without the use of special pieces. The action is the strongest fastest ever built into a bolt-action rifle, and is made of heat-treated steel to very close tolerances to eliminate variations in head space. This rifle may be loaded singly, without inserting the cartridge into the chamber. Its exclu-

sive Remington loading platform eliminates shaving of lead or lubrication, since each cartridge slides smoothly into the chamber. Its "Miracle" trigger gives smooth, crisp, lightning-like let-off without perceptible movement or back-lash. Accuracy is double protected by a shrouded bolt, smooth operation and close-fitting parts. A large number of

different iron sight combinations are available, including the immensely popular team of Remington micrometer rear sight and Redfield front sight. This is the rifle for the "hottest" competition, where possibilities plus extremely small groups and plenty of X's measure the difference between winning or losing a match.

WHAT A TEAM: A MODEL 37 & REMINGTON MATCH AMMO!

The Model 37 is a real score getter—but when you shoot Palma Kleanbore and Targetmaster ammunition in it, you just seem to go for the X-ring naturally! This ammunition is precision built to amazingly close tolerances. The priming, powder, case, and bullet are all made and assembled with tool-maker accuracy; the crimp and lubricant are very carefully controlled. Smallbore experts recognize Palma Kleanbore and Targetmaster cartridges as second to no other where championship titles are at stake.



The Old Coach's Corner

THE TARGET SHOOTER A 'CHUCKIN'

THIS IS THE SEASON when many of you who have been shooting the small bore on gallery and range for the past year may wish to try your skill at the sport of varmint shooting. In the language of our old flint lock American Riflemen "varmints" included all small obnoxious animals and birds, such as always the crow and coyote, sometimes woodchuck, prairie dog, jack rabbits, Western ground squirrels, and the more obnoxious species of hawks. Included also were skunks, either four or two footed. Please don't use the word "vermin." It makes me scratch. If it is to be a sport and not a cruel slaughter, kills should be clean, painless, instantaneous, and that means hitting in a surely vital spot which is not larger than the 10-ring. Thus varmint shooting is very like small bore shooting in everything except the cartridge used. A steady position usually with the sling, a rifle shaped and weighted for hard holding, a clean trigger, and quarter minute adjustments are all needed, as well as ability to shoot uniformly. These things will give satisfaction if coupled with the proper cartridge.

Your little .22 Long Rifle cartridge, however, just won't do, because of its curved trajectory and lack of killing power. Your ranges, remember, are not measured, but must be estimated, and I have never yet seen anyone who could surely come within 25 yards of the true distance at over a hundred paces. There is no time to set sights for estimated distance in hunting. He who tries it is doomed to failure. You must adjust for that range which takes best advantage of the trajectory of your cartridge, and then hold over at longer distances to allow for the drop of the bullet. Thus with the .22 Long Rifle High Speed cartridge if you set the sights to strike center at 75 yards, the bullet will hit 1-inch above line of aim at 40 yards, and drop 1-inch low at 85 yards. If you aim center, and don't make any allowance you will thus make a sure hit in the vitals up to the last named distance—always if you do your part correctly.

But in most localities the majority of the shots you get at sly varmints will be rather over a hundred yards than under, and you can hardly refrain from taking them because of your natural pride in a kill at long range. Now with the above sighting your little .22 L. R. bullet is going to drop $3\frac{1}{3}$ inches at 100 yards, and something like 8 inches at 125 yards, and in the field you cannot be sure if a certain distance is 80, 110, or 125 yards. Thus at any distance over about 85 yards the .22 Long Rifle cartridge will give you more misses and wounds than hits and kills.

The advertising we see in magazines extols the use of the .22 L. R., High Speed, Hollow Point cartridges for chuck shooting. I think this is very reprehensible. It will kill chucks all right if you can get a very central brain or heart hit, but that you can't do with any surely unless the distance is about 85 yards or under, and you are cool, and you take a steady prone position with the sling. And human nature is such that we just cannot resist sometimes taking other more difficult shots that present themselves. I have often had letters from young shooters telling me that they found this cartridge entirely satisfactory for chucks and other sizable varmints. But when I have

pointed out their error to them and induced them to change to a real varmint cartridge, they have many times written me that I was right, that to their chagrin they found that what they had been thinking were misses with the little cartridge were really hits, and the chucks got into their holes badly wounded—a thing we all want to avoid at all costs.

I should advise you to select a rifle for one of the following time-tried varmint cartridges: .22 Hornet, .218 Bee, .22-3000 Lovell 2R, .22 Varminter, .220 Swift, .25-20, or .257 Roberts. The last four named are powerful enough for coyotes. The Hornet is not too powerful for wild turkeys. If you will use factory ammunition exclusively choose the Hornet, Bee, Swift, .25-20 or Roberts. The others are a hand-loading proposition.

There is little or no difference that I can see between the Bee and the .25-20 when used in a lever action rifle. The accuracies of rifle, cartridges and iron sights in both cases limit you to a sure hitting range of about 100 yards, and at that distance both cartridges have ample trajectory and killing power. In fact the .25-20 is the better killer, and by no means a "has been." They are fine little 100-yard varmint rifles, very quick, but by no means long range arms. For long range you need flat trajectory, fine accuracy, a bolt action of at least 8 pounds, a sling and a good scope.

The longest ranged cartridges are the Varminter and Swift. Personally I use the 2R which I can load light enough for turkeys or heavy enough for coyotes. My best loads give me a sure hitting range on chucks of about 250 yards. In the Dope Bag Department Mr. Ness has from time to time given us the most perfect information on all these cartridges and rifles for them. Look up the back numbers of the magazine or write him. I realize that I am recommending that you shell out quite a lump of hard earned coin, but a really good varmint rifle is like a fine small bore match rifle. It will last you all your life, and you can, and probably will use it for fine sport every month in the year.

If you sight a rifle taking the .22 Hornet cartridge to strike center at 150 yards, then the bullet hits 1 inch high at both 50 and 100 yards, and drops 1 inch at 175 and 4 inches at 200 yards. Thus without any attempt to estimate distance it has a sure hitting range of 175 yards, or better say 150 yards in rather windy weather as this little cartridge is more sensitive to wind drift than the others. For convenience we write this trajectory as follows:

Over—(Inches)	1	1	0		
Yards	50	100	150	175	200
Under—(Inches)			0	1	4

Similarly the trajectories of other varmint cartridges and the distances to which they should be sighted is about as follows:

.22-3000 Lovell 2R	1	6	0		
	100	200	250	300	
.220 Swift		0	2	5	7
	100	200	250	300	400
.257 Roberts, 100 gr.	1	5	0		
	100	200	300	400	
		0	6	5	20

Now lets look into the matter of sights a minute. You have a rather indistinct and small target, often rendered more so by vegetation and shadow, very different from the clean cut black and white Official N. R. A. Targets. As you have already found out in target shooting, open rear sights are completely out of it,—too large errors of aim, too much affected by the way light strikes them, and no adequate adjustment. You cannot expect sure hits at over 50 yards with these. The hooded aperture front sight of your match rifle is also completely out of the running as you cannot see game surely through it. The best iron sights are a gold tipped front sight, preferably one with a square flat top (post) about .08-inch wide on top (King or Redfield) combined with an aperture rear sight close to the eye that has quarter minute adjustments for both elevation and windage, just like the usual match rifle rear sight. For most shooting, unscrew the cup disc and use the large Lyman aperture only. A cup disc slows catching of aim, and darkens the target. Such sights under ordinary field conditions are good for sure hits and kills up to about 100 to 125 yards on large hawks and chucks—not quite so far on smaller varmints. Once in a while on a very distinct target, such as a chuck standing out black in a dead grass field, you can hit up to almost 200 yards, but that's an exception. Reason is indistinct targets, limitations of vision of naked eye, and too large errors of aim.

A good telescope sight is of more advantage proportionately in varmint shooting than in any other sport with the rifle. It gives you clear and distinct aim to distances in proportion to its resolving power—magnification and diameter of objective lens. The usual 4-power scope is quite satisfactory up to about 150 to 200 yards, and as it has a wider field of view than higher powers it is a very ideal instrument on a Hornet rifle where the sure hitting range is only about 175 yards anyhow. But it would decidedly cut down the hitting range of a Swift or 2R rifle. On the other hand, unlike target shooting, the very high power scopes are undesirable because the narrow field of view makes them slow to catch aim with, and they have to be focused for close to the actual shooting distance. Decidedly the best scopes on the longer ranged rifles are those of 8 to 10 power with as large an objective lens as you can afford. Medium fine cross hairs make the best all around reticule, except for a thickly wooded, dark back-

ground country which renders cross hairs invisible and calls for a rather thick flat top post.

As I have said your problem is to hit a small vital spot on the varmint about similar in size to the 10-ring at 100 yards. As in small bore shooting, you will be badly handicapped unless you use the reliable $\frac{1}{4}$ -minute click mounts of double micrometer type like the Lyman, Fecker, and Unertl. Such mounts usually necessitate building up a high comb on the stock. In other words successful varmint shooting calls for a typical target scope of medium power.

I get the best sport out of varmint shooting when I combine it with stalking, trying to get as close as possible to my game and killing it dead with a single shot. I think it is most sportsmanlike to take more pride in finding your bullet hole precisely where your cross-hairs intersected rather than in taking long shots only. Usually we range the country either in a car or afoot, and spy for game from vantage points. A pair of binoculars are a great help in picking up game, in fact, a good varmint hunter uses them continually. Chucks usually cannot be picked up at any considerable distance without them. Eight power glasses are about right. Those of 10 power or over are usually too bulky, heavy, and costly.

Having located your varmint try to stalk to that distance at which you will be sure of a kill. Remember they have keen eyes, ears, and noses like any other game, and you must stalk up wind, noiselessly, and out of sight. Be on the lookout for a good firing point, preferably one from which you can shoot prone or sitting and use the sling. Often you will have to crawl up to it, perhaps through high grass. Often you may have to shoot from behind a stone wall on which you can usually get a perch for the left elbow that permits the sling to steady you. Estimate your distance, and if it is further than that for which you have sighted your rifle hold over to allow for the drop of the bullet. If there is a strong wind, aim on the windy edge of the little beast but never off of it. On long shots more misses are made by overestimate of range and holding too high, or holding over too far for wind, than in other ways. Try to hold with uniform tension every time. Remember what variation in tension of holding does to you on the small bore range. Be quite sure that you will hit within that vital 10-ring spot or don't fire. When you kill, kill as a true rifleman should, with a single shot.

"MOO NECKS"

THE name "woodchuck" is practically unknown south of New England and New York state. All through Delaware, Maryland and some sections of Pennsylvania the animal is universally known as the "groundhog." In Centre County, Pennsylvania it also goes by the name of "whistle-pig." In the West and Northwest it is known as "Marmot," which is the correct name. The queerest name I ever heard this little animal called is "Moo Necks" and being puzzled I asked many in an effort to trace the origin of such a name. Finally one old fellow admitted that they had called the critters groundhogs many years before, but a Government chap from Washington had told them it was wrong; that the animals were "Moo Necks," which explained matters. The Government chappie could not talk farmer's English, so he had used the scientific name of "monax."—*The Woodbuck Hunter*, by Paul C. Estey.

OVER THE NEWS DESK

TRIBUTE TO POPE

July 15, 1941.

Mr. Harry M. Pope,
Jersey City, N. J.

DEAR HARRY:

At the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association, held on Monday, July 7th, here in Washington, a motion was passed directing me, as the Secretary of the Association, to extend our sincere personal and official congratulations to you on this, your eightieth birthday.

It was the unanimous opinion of the Executive Committee that your devotion to the shooting game and your superb workmanship have not only rendered an outstanding contribution to the success of many American International Rifle Teams, but have also served as a stimulant and an inspiration to the entire American arms manufacturing industry and tens of thousands of young American riflemen through three generations.

With sincere regards and best wishes for many more years of useful activity, I am

Respectfully yours,
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION,
C. B. LISTER,
Secretary-Treasurer.

OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION CARDS

Although the following bulletin is posted now at all Registered Tournaments we publish it here for the benefit of those who may not have seen it. Should you hold a Temporary Classification Card with the required number of shots recorded, send for your Official Card at once and at the same time order your Qualification award as shown on page 62 of this issue.

All competitors holding a Temporary Classification Card (the small yellow card obtainable from the Official Referee at Registered Tournaments) may obtain an Official N. R. A. Classification Card after July 31st by sending their temporary cards to the N. R. A. Headquarters Office. Official Classification Cards will be issued after that date provided that at least 120 rounds (rifle) or 90 (pistol) have been fired in "Registered Events". Official Classification Cards will be issued ONLY when the properly filled out and signed temporary card has been submitted. Do not mail your temporary card until you have completed all tournaments you will fire in prior to July 31st. Competitors who are listed in the 1941 Classification Books and consequently now hold Official Classification Cards will continue to use that card throughout 1941.

PICTURES WANTED

Morris Fisher, author of "Mastering the Rifle" and "Mastering the Pistol," is hard at work on a third volume, to cover his experiences on the many International rifle teams of which he has been a member. The big stumbling block is pictures. We haven't them in our files; Fisher hasn't enough. So . . . we appeal to our members, and particularly to members of any of the .30 caliber international teams from 1920 to 1930. Anyone having pictures of these teams, or any members of the teams who can supply a picture of themselves, preferably with the free rifle, will earn Mr. Fisher's undying gratitude, and are liable to find their picture published in his book to boot. Mr. Fisher should be addressed at 8540 96th St., Woodhaven, L. I., New York.

THE CANAL'S CIVILIAN GUNNERS

Think of Panama and the Canal, and the mind's eye conjures up a picture of dense tropical foliage concealing a myriad display of mammoth long-distance cannon, manned by dugaree-clad soldiers with that "ready on the mark and said go" expression written all over them. True; and Panama's jungle fastnesses, immediately east and west of the Canal itself for five to a hundred miles, probably have more heavy armament, machine gun nests and concealed batteries than any other equal-sized strip of land in the entire world.

General Hodges, one of the outstanding heroes of the Canal's history, sought some medium to combat that madness that crept over the imported Americans who handled the Chinos, the Hindus, Jamaicans and the heterogeneous mass of humanity that worked under the blistering tropical sun on this Babel-Tower-like project.

The General was a bit of a psychologist. The boys from the States were a tough, rough-and-ready gang. Sporting a pistol was part of the job. At an impromptu pistol shoot one dusk the General conceived the idea of a gun club, and thus the old Culebra Gun Club was born.

As the years wore on interest more or less lagged in the club, and with the next boom on the Canal in 1918, the gun-bugs who were still interested in the sport formed the club with the long name, as the Gringos called it, the Ancon-Balboa Rifle and Pistol and Gun Club. Eventually the name was changed to the "Balboa Gun Club," which it still retains to this date.

World War Number Two broke out and all of a sudden Uncle Samuel found that he had a vital interest in the tropics. The result was that thousands and thousands of new employees, soldiers, sailors and technicians flocked to Panama for Canal defense.

The Balboa Gun Club had been working on its new clubhouse located at Far Fan Beach, the Gold (American) employees' favorite beach, and its clubhouse turned into sort of a country club for its members and guests. The swimmers and shooters flock there every Sunday, and its membership of 160 is taxed to the limit to entertain its guests.

For handgun-men there is a nice set-up of ranges. The targets are brand new, and the "running man" target is used by both the civilians and the Police Department of the Zone. They use what are known as "Bobbies," small targets which reverse for a few seconds for quick snap shots. For the rifle addicts the gun club has erected a specially-covered protective device, and supplies mats for prone shooting. During the rainy season—May first to December fifteenth—the torrential downpours would dampen the most enthusiastic gun fan, but the protection is afforded by this specially-built housing. The small-bore range features 50 and 100-yard ranges and targets. There is also a skeet and trapshooting range, as well as the high-power rifle range for the .30-caliber rifles, and this is a 200-yard shoot.

Meets are arranged whenever possible with the other clubs on the Canal: Gatun, Cristobal, Gamboa and Pedro Miguel. Army shooters and visiting Navy men are always welcome and turn out en-masse when anything of interest is stirring at Far Fan. The Army has six teams and the civilians two in the Pacific League, which covers the Pacific terminus of the Canal.

Yep, the Balboa Gun Club is growing up and getting to be a full-fledged youngster.

TIMED FIRE with Bill Shadel

Many NRA clubs around the country are finding their offers to cooperate with home or state guard units accepted readily and with fanfare. We've heard from such well-known riflemen as Roy Grable on the West Coast, Mike Bridgland in Florida, Mark Cooper and George Sweeney in Georgia, Roslyn Club on Long Island, to name only a few, and from it all we gather rifle shooting is to have many new converts. We hope to have some suggestions to pass on to every NRA member and club in the September RIFLEMAN on this matter of doing our part in the defense considerations. In the meantime, we'd like to hear from all who have had a part in linking up this rifle and pistol program as long advocated, with the present emergency. It would give us a well-rounded picture of this fraternity in action.

• The Mail Bag: A Middlesex, England, subscriber in a recent letter emphasizes club range use along the lines we've been talking about: "In these times the arrival of THE RIFLEMAN is like a breath of fresh air and is a real tonic to me. Although we are not able to enjoy open meetings just now we are doing what we can to keep the sport going and have a few leagues running despite the attention of Jerry. My own range at Hendon has had an HE bomb behind the butts but they are still up. This does not prevent the range doing good work during the week-end with the Home Guard, Cadets and other people all anxious to let some sense into any of the enemy who care to call. Then we have our own works range especially built for the Home Guard and I am assisting to teach three hundred men to shoot and all are as keen as mustard."

• With the tournaments: Here's an idea that should prove popular with competitors, at least. Out in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where tournament travel is a real item, Magic Empire match officials concocted this attraction. Competitors from more than 25 miles were given a refund at a cent a mile on their entry fees for all miles traveled over the twenty-five. Entries totaled ten dollars for the match, so a top of a thousand miles was placed on refunds, but travel 500 miles and you shoot for half price, a thousand miles and you shoot for nothing.

• Visiting some of the matches of the month, we still say that East Longmeadow Rod and Gun Club pistol range at Springfield, Mass., is one of the most attractive we've looked over. Leading out in New England with their second Regional, this NRA club wins the thanks of Yankee pistolers for an A-1 registered event, for a sixty-point firing line on which to battle out Regional honors, and unselfish club members to do all the work. Leading lights, Ed Bridgman and Earl Chase, ran a smooth match. What happened at Ritchie, scene of the Eastern Regionals, this year? Or was it everything, as we hear, not much of it complimentary; but then there's always the weather to blame.

• Rifle instruction from the Associated Press, an NRA approved series to start this fall in the AP feature service and available to all AP papers. In six parts, this series should stir up interest in your club program if you contact your editors and synchronize your new recruit drive with publication date of the instruction.

TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

REGIONALS HEADLINE PRE-PERRY CALENDAR

RIFLE:

MID-WEST REGIONAL SMALL BORE

Bill Woodring, recently publicized by Ripley in his "Believe It or Not" newspaper feature service, came close to establishing another unusual mark at the Mid-West Regional Small Bore Championships at Springfield, Illinois. For the first time in this chronicler's memory Bill failed to win a single event in the three-day program, though he went far to again establish the value of consistency by winning the Regional Aggregate with a 3177 x 3200, seven points in front of Emory Hawcock.

"Wee Willie" also copped the Iron Sight Aggregate, 1589 x 1600, but was two points under Paul Poe's winning 1590 in the Any Sight Aggregate.

The weather was close to unbearable, with extreme heat and humidity forcing several competitors to withdraw and bringing about the establishment of an emergency squad to take care of the suffering target runners. Of course these conditions, with the accompanying heavy mirage, kept scoring subnormal, with no 400's recorded in either of the two 50-meter events, neither one of the 100 yard matches, or the Dewar Iron event.

Frank Russell of Plainview, Indiana, toted home the most top medals, with four first places; Emory Hawcock, Byron Hoover, and Bob Spahr each added two new gold medals to their rapidly growing collections.

In view of the decision regarding free trips to Perry to the top two winners in each class not having been announced until the day these matches began, there were no Marksman entries in the Regional Aggregate. Only six trips were awarded: Bill Woodring and Emory Hawcock in the Master Class; Frank Russell and Helen Spahr, Experts; George Johnson and Gib Anderson, Sharpshooters.

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL SMALL BORE

The North Central Regional Championship, held on the Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association's range near Mount Gilead, Ohio, June 12 and 13, was distinguished by a record entry of 211 competitors, and the cloudy skies with cool, tricky breezes which kept possible scores to a minimum.

Bill Patriquin, of Cleveland, won the Regional Aggregate with a score of 3171-159X. R. T. Roark, an Expert, also had 3171 but with 152X, for second place. Third in this match was Allan Johnston, Detroit, with 3169. Ed Dobbs' 3167 was second in Expert Class. Robert Overman and Harold Meiser ran one-two in the Sharpshooter Class. James Stallkamp and Morris Drew finished in that order among the Marksman.

The Sunday aggregate of the metallic sights matches was won by Fred Eakins, Jr., Columbus, 1587-59X. Johnston and Roark followed. The Saturday aggregate of any sight matches was won by Perry Grossklaus, Navarre, Ohio, with 1592-98X outranking Steve Mylant, of Cleveland, with the same score. Patriquin was third with 1591.

Proving that youth and beauty can sometimes defeat the older and more experienced, 17-year-old Bob Lausten took the Dewar any sights with a 399-28X, outranking Helen Jenkins, Ohio State Co-ed. Then came the "oldsters" Patriquin and Roark.

Thurman Randle won the 100 yard, metallic sights, 398-23X. He was followed by Earl Saunders, from down Louisville way; then Grossklaus and Ferd. Schimmel, Detroit—and the "oldsters" won back their laurels. The 50 yard, any sights, went to V. M. Leffel, Springfield, Ohio, with a 400-

29X; while a near record on the new X-ring, 50 meter target was shot by Max Jensen, Cleveland. He fired a possible with 31X. The record is 32X.

In the Dewar iron sight event Sunday, E. M. Rader, Lorain, Ohio, dropped in a 400 with 28X, and Eaking copped the 100 yard iron, shooting 396-20X.

E. P. Stephens, Marietta, fired a possible 400-18X to win the 50 yard event, and a short time later in the last clash, a 50 meter, metallic sight match, L. C. Allen won with 398, outranking Patriquin.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL SMALL BORE

It was a simple process of elimination that George Spurlin shot his way to the 1941 Southwest Regional Small Bore Championship which was held in conjunction with the Texas title matches at Kilgore from June 20 to 22. The Dallas shooter, pitted against a field of 74 which included 17 Masters, merely knocked several competitors out of the aggregate race in each match and finished with a score of 3181, seven points in front of runner-up Sam McIntosh.

Spurlin took care of his most sizeable group in the opening event, 50 yards iron sights, when he fired 400-30X to finish second, a single X behind S. E. Pipes. He added a 398-16X for fifth place in the meter open event and at this stage was out in front of everyone but Marie Robertson and threatened only by Thurman Randle and E. G. Pope. That trio hung on closely through the Dewar any sight event which was won by R. A. Newcomb with 399-28X, but both Pope and Mrs. Robertson fell far behind in the 100 yard iron clash which J. F. McCubbin took with 397-19X. Spurlin now led the pack nine points down and one mark in front of Randle.

Thurman took the lead in the fifth match of the aggregate, the Dewar iron, and Pope gained all but one point back, but Spurlin's consistency settled the issue in the 100 yard any. He scored 398-16 to finish second behind McCubbin. Pope and Randle now trailed by three points and never threatened again.

George won the next match, his first, with 400-16X at 50 yards with any sights, and McIntosh closed fast to win the final tussle, metric iron, and second place with 397-24X.

The class winners in the regional aggregate were: Masters—Spurlin and McIntosh, both of Dallas; Experts—Hugh Prince, Kilgore, and Edward Kell, Deerfield, Kans.; Sharpshooters—Mrs. Hugh Prince and C. L. Stevens, Dallas; Marksman—Ross Quinn, Corpus Christi, and Mott Dunham, Tulsa, Okla.

CAMP RITCHIE SMALL BORE

It was Bill Schweitzer again in the N. R. A. Eastern Regional Small Bore Championship at Camp Ritchie, but the genial Hillside shooter had a much tougher time with his New Jersey companion, Rans Triggs, than last year. When the final count for the big aggregate was in after four days' shooting, July 3-6, Bill had won his second straight Eastern crown by a two-point margin, 3187 to 3185, over runner-up Triggs.

More than 350 riflemen alone registered for the tourney and, counting the pistol shooters, the number of competitors easily topped the 500 mark. But, many of the other tourney features were not that satisfactory. A constant rain, which suspended one entire afternoon program, fell for a full five days and delays due to the rain and other causes made the picture look none too bright, particularly the first few days.

The early matches, fired under the worst conditions of the tourney, served merely as a warm-up for Schweitzer and Bill indicated he was ready for anything by winning the Swiss match and teaming with Triggs to cop the Dewar Doubles. The results of the Swiss were a tip-off, incidentally, on conditions. Schweitzer's winning total was nine straight bulls.

R. D. Berkheiser opened hostilities in the Regional by winning the 50 yard iron with a possible and 31X's. Schweitzer made his first bid in the meter event which he won with 399-33X. However, R. O. Willman topped the eastern crew in the Dewar and 100 yard clashes to lead at the end of the first day's shooting and, at the same time, win the iron sight aggregate by a single point over Schweitzer with 1592-104X.

The open events proved Willman's downfall the second day and the Mt. Wolfe Master faded fast. Triggs, who was far down the list, started to move and although he didn't win a match in the entire aggregate, he all but overtook Schweitzer in the first three any sight matches. G. W. Moore, A. W. Philbrick and Jerome French were the winners, taking the 50 yard, 50 meter and Dewar contests, respectively.

Schweitzer saved his title in the 100 yard event which was won by Harry Frohm with 399-27X. He finished only 2X's back in second place but enough ahead of Triggs to repeat his 1940 win.

Winner of the Camp Perry trip last year, Schweitzer is ineligible for another. Thus, the first two journeys pass to Triggs and Samuel G. Kurtz, of Lebanon, Pa., who ended up third. Laurence Moore, Philadelphia, and Archie Gladfelter, York, Pa., will travel as Experts; G. B. Hedrick, York, and E. H. Strayer, Red Lion, Pa., win the prizes as Sharpshooters; Lawrence Oster, Llanerch, Pa., and H. F. Lewis, Towanda, Pa., will represent the Marksman.

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL SMALL BORE

Class "A" competition returned to the Southeastern Region after a year's absence on June 13 and 14 and sixty-six riflemen accepted the incomparable hospitality of Fred Sarles and his Greensboro, N. C., cronies—and of the city itself. One of the shooters, Charlie Hamby of Atlanta, went even further. He accepted all four aggregate trophies and three first place medals besides.

It was little short of brutal what Hamby did to the field down there, but still none of his victories were one-sided. Alice Molt, of Asheville, who conquered Husband Fred at every turn, pushed the Atlantan in each aggregate and the four-point margin by which she lost the Southeastern Championship represented Hamby's biggest margin. His score was 3184-221X; Alice tallied 3180-188X; John Stack, the early leader, finished third with 3171-172X, and Fred Molt wound up fourth by virtue of his 3168-188X.

Stack, of Hampton, Va., opened hostilities in the 50 yard any sight with a possible and 27X's. He was outranked by Hamby by 4 X's in the Dewar any, but kept his one-point lead. Both had 399's. The Virginia Expert grabbed another point lead by winning the 100 yard open with 399-28X, but wasted those efforts in the meter match in which he slumped to 395. Mrs. Molt took this one with a possible and 24X's and Hamby was runner-up just a point behind. The any sight aggregate and trophy went to Charlie by one point over Mrs. Molt and two over Stack. The winning score was 1595-110X.

The second day's opener, 50 yard iron, went to W. J. Summerall with a possible while Hamby slipped to 397 and Mrs. Molt and Stack dropped four points apiece. Charlie then clinched the big title by running out in the next two events, Dewar and 100 yard irons, and dropping only three points in

both. With eight points insurance he gave up four to Alice in the final match at 50 meters, which she copped with 399-26x, and still came up with the regional crown by four points, the metallic sights aggregate by three points, and the Dewar aggregate by two markers.

The first two Camp Perry trips went to Hamby as high Master and Fred Molt as second Master. Mrs. Molt, entitled to a trip as high Expert, passed up the opportunity because of Fred's acceptance and the two Expert trips went to Stack and Gilbert Moriconi.

N. J. Boger and L. W. Bolt will represent the Sharpshooter class at the National Matches, and the Marksman winners are James Bailey and James Rogers.

National Champ Dave Carlson, shooting just for score, went over the entire course for 3190-201x.

PISTOL:

NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL PISTOL

For the second year in a row New England pistol shooters battled for the Northeastern Regional Championship on the sporty new range of the East Long Meadow Rod and Gun Club just outside of Springfield, Mass. Ninety competitors turned out for the three day matches, July 4 to 6, and while this represented a slight decrease from the previous year, it was regarded as a better-than-expected field considering pressing defense work in that section, the experimental 4th of July date, and rain.

However, the event again was smoothly handled and the spirit of the competitors was high especially after John McKearney, Jr., of Norwood, Mass., took an early lead in the regional aggregate by copping the first two matches. Starting off with the .22 calibers, McKearney won the slow fire stage with 192, one point above Boston's Andy Markhard. McKearney's lead grew to more substantial proportions after his 198 timed fire victory with Edward Culkin and Dick Ebbeson following a point behind.

The chase was starting in earnest and Culkin halved the rapid fire set-to with the leader at 196, and even outranked him to win the match. William Labots, Arvid Ebbeson and Wilfred Sirois, with 292, 291 and 286, respectively, shut out the pacemakers over the National Match Course at the end of the first day's firing.

To start the center fire matches the next day, Hollis Beattie and Dick Ebbeson finished one-two at slow fire with 185's. In the timed fire stage, McKearney, Sirois and Markhard practically clinched three of the top spots. John won the event with 195, outranking Sirois. Markhard totalled 194 points.

Splitting the final two matches, Markhard and Sirois made last-ditch efforts to catch the steady-shooting McKearney, but the Norwood Master wound up in first place in the aggregate by six points. His total score was 1704. Markhard finished second with 1698 while Culkin's first day success earned him third position with 1689. Sirois trailed with 1681.

Beattie and Dick Ebbeson grabbed the two top Expert positions; Theodore Stronach and Theodore Johnson were the Sharpshooter class leaders; Mason Williams and William Synarski netted honors from the Marksman.

MID-WEST REGIONAL PISTOL

Aside from the extreme heat, shooting conditions were almost ideal for the over one hundred registrants on this fine, new 30-target Springfield range. Competition for the two big aggregates was just about as torrid as the weather from the very start of this three-day event, with Ollie Yanick of the St. Louis Police and ex-soldier Garfield Huddleston, now of the Kansas City Police, battling for top places. Yanick finally surged to the top with a strong finish in the center-fire events on the last day to nose out Huddleston for the N. R. A. Regional Championship by four points and the All-Around Aggregate by just a single point. In the N. R. A. Aggregate Huddleston's 1718 was finally outranked by a better 1718 of his teammate, the always-consistent Francis O'Connor.

Kansas City established a near-monopoly on the Regional winners of Camp Perry trips, with O'Connor placing second for the Championship; Hugh Adamson high Expert; and Clarence Keithley high Sharpshooter. Adamson and Keithley were also class winners in the All-Around Championship. Tullio Verna, second high Expert in the Regional; Dwight Witt, high Marksman; and a Springfield shooter, Clyde Townsend, walked off with the runner-up position in the Sharpshooter classification.

Keithley of Kansas City came close to establishing an all-time high in making a clean sweep of the high Sharpshooter medals

in all five aggregates—if he hadn't dropped to second in the .22 Aggregate. Dwight Witt was another four-out-of-five Aggregate winner, in the Marksman Class, by placing high in all but the .45 Aggregate.

Two father and son combinations fired in all events with the sons frequently outranking their seniors—I. G. and Robert McQueen of Iowa and Joe Byron, senior and junior, of Illinois.

In the four-man team events St. Louis won the Camp Perry Course with an 1162 against Kansas City's 1143. In the .22 National Match Course Kansas City topped with 1153. The "rubber" event, center-fire National Match, was finally won by St. Louis, just a single point ahead of Kansas City, 1101 to 1100.

CAMP RITCHIE PISTOL

A pair of pistol-shooting G-men dueled for two raw, rainy days high in the Blue Ridge Mountains at Camp Ritchie, Md., and when the last shot was fired on July 6 the two-year reign of Washington's Walter Walsh as Eastern Regional Champion was at an end. The New Champion is Henry J. Adams, of Newark, N. J.

It was a race all the way through the big aggregate with the two agents outclassing a field of more than 120 Middle Atlantic shooters, although in the early matches preceding the Regional it looked like Walsh could win as he pleased. He started off by taking the Individual Center Fire Camp Perry Course with 294 and the Center Fire Police Championship with 289 points.

The Marines took things in hand with the .45 calibers as Thurman Barrier, of Annapolis, and Robert Schneeman, of Quantico, grabbed the first two spots in the aggregate with 834 and 828, respectively. Adams was third with 821.

For one brief match in the regional race Walsh and Adams shared the lead. That was the .22 slow fire. Walsh won it by outranking Adams and Martin Golden after all three had fired 189's. Norman Stude copped the timed fire and Wilbur Slack the rapid fire, but the two F. B. I. agents were piling up points all the way. After the Defending Champion had won over the National Match Course with 291 the score at the halfway mark stood all even—Adams and Walsh leading with 869 apiece.

The pressure was on Walter after the first match the second day when he went four down to the Newark star in the center fire

North-Central Small Bore events were staged at Mt. Gilead, Ohio



slow fire. Adams upped that margin to seven points in the rapid fire match after the pair had halved the timed fire stage.

Walsh was far from through and he made a valiant last-ditch try over the National Match Course with the Center fire pistols. He fired a 289 for second place and picked up five points on his rival. But, it wasn't enough and Adams totalled 1730 to Walsh's 1728 score. Both will get National Match trips.

Washington, D. C., shooters, Johnny Layton and Dr. William Cook, swept Expert Class honors; the two Sharpshooter trips go to William Kendall, Washington, Pa., and Chester Koons, Annapolis, Md.; James George, Riverhead, N. Y., and Hugh Richter, Wilmington, Del., finished high in the Marksman Class and will be awarded those trips.

SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL PISTOL

The bad weather jinx, which has plagued nearly every regional match so far fired, stayed with the Southwestern Regional Pistol Matches at Houston, Tex., the entire three days of the tourney June 6, 7, and 8. Seventy-eight competitors braved the wind and spasmodic rain, however, and battled it out for the eight Camp Perry trips on the new 50-target Prison Farm range.

Jesse N. Woody, of Stanton, Tex., proved his ability under adverse conditions and won the Regional Championship with comparative ease—by 12 points to be exact—over J. M. Solomon, of Dallas. The winner's score for the eight-match aggregate was 1657 x 1800; Solomon score 1645; third place went to Thomas S. Pennington, of Austin, with 1643.

The events leading up to the Regional Aggregate were somewhat dominated by shooters from out of the Southwest and thus ineligible for the title. After Don Lawrence, of Austin, had grabbed the opening .22 National Match Course clash, Francis M. O'Connor, of the Kansas City, Mo., police, stepped in to take the next two matches, the .22 caliber rapid and timed fire. Pennington then won his only match in the aggregate in the slow fire stage.

Woody and Solomon started off right the next day by winning the center fire timed and rapid fire stages, respectively, before the Kansas City police pair of Garfield Huddleston and O'Connor took the two concluding aggregate events.

H. W. Heiling, of Austin, and James B. Como, of Beaumont, outscored the Expert

Class; Tom R. Gallamore, Austin, and Sam F. Muecke, Galveston, were the two high Sharpshooters; Fred Woodell, Dallas, and George W. Hall took Marksman honors.

CLASS B SHOOTS SMALL BORE AT MEDFORD

The Medford Rifle Club went "all out" on May 31 and June 1 in the staging of its annual tournament which this year was raised to Class "B" status. A host of shooting stars from all along the Pacific Coast fired in comparative luxury on the 120 foot covered firing line, sufficiently raised to miss the top of the grass, and competitors barely got the kinks out before they saw their score posted, so efficient was the intricate telephone system.

California Champion Robert Perkins staged a comeback on the second day of firing to win the aggregate by seven points over host club competitor Ivan Waddell with 3181-159x. The Fresno shooter turned in possibilities at 50 meters and 50 yards the second day although the meter match was the only single event he won. Cliff Frosberg, who outranked Perkins at 50 yards, was tops in the expert class with 3161-153x, just 28x's ahead of Bruce Smith.

Claude Mallory was way ahead of the sharpshooter field with his 3164-151x total. L. E. Brentlinger was second. The 3123-108x finish of Albert Smith in the marksman class easily won that honor with Jim Bolton second, 26 points behind.

MID-WEST RIFLE TOURNAMENT

Ninety-four shooters accepted the challenge of the Lafayette, Ind., range, notorious as being one of the "toughest" layouts in the country, and entered the sixth annual Mid-West Small Bore Tournament on May 25. That unusually large number of competitors taxed the facilities of this match which only this year has grown up to a Class "B" status.

There wasn't much doubt but that tricky wind conditions which always prevail at the range proved too much for more than one good shooter and that the pay-off was in large part for wind doping ability. Thus the triumph of Chicago's Helen Spahr in the aggregate with a score of 1584 generally was hailed as very creditable under the conditions. She was two points up on W. E. Seagley and five ahead of Robert Spahr.

The strangest upset of the tourney was furnished by Chester Martin, of Danville, Ind. Actually a beginner, Martin won the

Dewar any sight, out-ranking M. E. Hicks with 398. Byron Hoover took the 100 yard any sight; Robert Spahr the Dewar Iron; Wiley Dorsett the 50 meter, and E. L. Lord the 50 yard any.

VERMONT STATE PISTOL

Massachusetts police officers staged a raid on the Vermont State Pistol Tournament on June 21 and 22 at Northfield Falls, and what a haul they made! They missed scoring a clean sweep in the .45 caliber and center fire matches by only a few class medals.

Hollis Beattie led the police raid on the first day by taking all three .45 matches. The cops got everything except the slow fire second place Dick Ebbeson, of Maine, got away with, and the timed fire second and third slots taken by two Vermonters, William Peterson and Bill Herrick. Later on in the day Lt. Andrew Markhard and Earl Laird of the Boston Police made off with the .22 doubles crown.

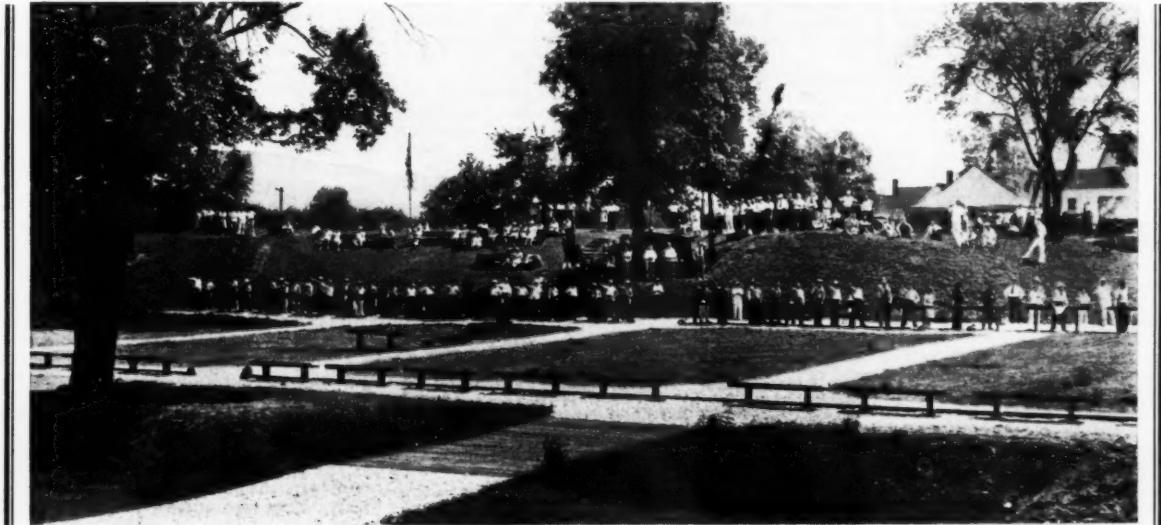
Beattie was right back the next day, though, to show his heels to the field in the center fire aggregate which he won with 559. The rest of the field made a fight of it in the .22 caliber field with Peterson, Laird, Dick and Arvid Ebeson leading the way, but it was too late and when the chips were counted for the State Championship (.22 and center-fire aggregate) it was Wilfred Sirois, of the Massachusetts police, the winner with a new state record, 1113, and Lt. Markhard second with 1102 points.

LOUISIANA SMALL BORE CHAMPIONSHIPS

A late squall may have spoiled a few scores in the last event of the Louisiana State Small Bore Tournament at Baton Rouge on May 24 and 25, but it couldn't take anything away from a fine match. Home state marksmen had to be—and were—at their best to overcome an invasion from three states which included Thurman Randle at the head of a Texas delegation.

S. E. Pipes, Monroe, La., master, didn't win a single first place until totalling was begun on the aggregates, and then his long line of second place scores added up to the Louisiana Small Bore Championship with the metallic sight aggregate to boot. Randle took care of the any sight aggregate, dropping only seven of the 1200 possible points. Pipes' count in the state title chase was 2773 with George Whittington high Expert, James Hale high

The Springfield Range, site of the Northeastern Pistol Regional



Sharpshooter, and Leonard Knecht the top marksman.

Louisiana's Curtis Natal and Mrs. Marie Robertson, of Texas, shared honors in the single matches, each winning two, with Randle and Whittington taking one apiece. Alvin Badeaux, of Thibodaux, La., who never fired in a match before, won the other event, the 100 yard any sight, and took home a trophy in his initial attempt. His score was 395-25x. The Texas delegation gained some prestige in the team match in which it scored 1573 to win by ten markers.

NEW YORK CENTRAL PISTOL

A heavy cross wind apparently did not hamper the scoring of 91 competitors from five states who turned out on May 25 for the New York State Rifle Association Pistol Championships held in Albany in conjunction with the fourth annual New York Central A. A. Rifle & Revolver Club matches.

The smooth-running match got off to a good start with Philadelphia's Jeff Trader taking the .22 slow fire, Capt. W. B. Kunz, Fort Devens, Mass., beating the field in the timed fire stage and Dana Poyer sneaking in to a rapid fire victory. Riverhead, L. I.'s Nugent George topped the .22 caliber National Match entries.

A new crew of shooters took charge of the center fire events, A. Shay winning the slow fire, Pat O'Neil the timed fire, and Jerry Sampere the rapid fire stage. Erv Meddaugh was high scorer of the center fire National Match Course.

At the end of those eight matches, though, it wasn't any of those fellows who was the big winner. Ralph Adriance, of Binghamton, was the new New York State All-Around Pistol Champion as well as the holder of the .22 caliber crown. Shay grabbed the .38 caliber crown.

IOWA STATE SMALL BORE MATCHES

Chet Jones, city manager of Albert Lea, Minn., unseated Vere Hamer as the top man in the annual Iowa State Rifle Association matches at Des Moines on June 14 and 15 after the 1941 titlist went seven points down in the first two events of the four-match aggregate.

Hamer never recovered from the 397 he scored in the opening Dewar any sight match, which was won by John Moshkau with a possible, and the 396 he tallied at 100 yards. F. O. Parker's 400 won that event. Moshkau turned in another possible, his second, with metallic sights at 50 yards, but the Waterloo, Ia., shooter met his Waterloo at 100 yards and faded from the title picture.

The other match, the Dewar iron sights, was taken by Paul Poe's total of 397, the best of 51 entries.

When the aggregate was posted, Jones was the winner with 1591 x 1600 with Hamer the runner-up with 1589. Poe was another point behind in third place, and Moshkau ended up in fourth place but still high enough to top the Iowa contingent with 1586 points.

NEW PHILLY-TUSCOS SMALL BORE

It looked like the call to arms at the New Philadelphia, O., Tuscos Small Bore Tournament with 106 riflemen, representing a new high entry for the match, registered for the two days of hot competition on June 28 and 29.

Charles Whipple, Pennsylvania ace, for the second year in a row took most of the honors as he swept to the Grand Aggregate title. He scored 2785 points and 171 x's while Billy Patriquin copped runner-up laurels with 2783-170x's. Whipple wasted little time the opening day in building up his lead. He gave up the first event, 50 yard any sight, to Ray Louden who tallied 400-33x, but took the meter open by virtue of 398-22x. Patriquin's 399-21x stopped Whipple momentarily in the

Dewar iron, but no one could top his 399-23x in the 100 yard iron. That gave Whipple the first aggregate with 1593-99x and Patriquin was five points behind.

Charlie didn't win a match on the second day's program which was curtailed because of rain, but with Bob Corley, Louden and Craig Rider dividing the three matches no one was able to seriously threaten the consistent Pennsylvanian. W. C. Donaldson won the second day aggregate.

If that wasn't enough, Whipple teamed with Rider in the 100 yard doubles and they posted 400-28x to win by 3 x's over the Markey-Patriquin duo. The handling of the match drew no criticism from the contestants, mostly because it was smoothly run and partly because the shooters had to spend nearly every minute doping the gale-like wind.

WESTERN SMALL BORE MATCHES

The largest turnout for a California rifle match this year assembled on the Richmond Municipal layout for the eighth annual Western Small Bore Rifle Championships June 8th. There were 109 competitors in the day's eight matches, but when the aggregate was posted it was all Bud Wickersham of the San Francisco Rifle Club with 1588 x 1600.

A big step forward in junior shooting promotion was taken at this tourney by the host, Richmond Club, which permitted all unclassified juniors to enter the matches for a 25 cent range fee. This plan furnished the big upset of the match for fourteen juniors took the offer and in addition to competing in the special junior match, stayed around for the regular program. Of that band of young marksmen Edward Vorous, the special match winner, went on to whip the senior field in the Jones event with a 400 possible and 29x's.

The other match winners were C. Royce Inman with a 400 possible in the Miller match, Wickersham with a 399 in the Lutje and Son Match, and Sam Lear with 393 in the 50 meter tussle. Margaret Turner topped the ladies in their special with 197.

MICHIGAN STATE PISTOL

Harry Reeves did all sorts of things at this big Class "B" match on the Jackson Police range, but the thing he did most consistently was win. And, when the firing of the two-day tourney was over on June 29, Reeves had amassed an amazing record of 13 victories in the 15 matches. Moreover, that does not include three team matches in which Harry fired on the winning squad.

Only two other shooters besides Reeves answered the call when individual first place awards were given out and they were Maurice Lalonde, Harry's teammate on the Detroit Police, who took one of the .38 stages, and Carlos Hurley, of the Michigan State Police, who won the .38 National Match.

This was Harry's match and he was hot. He had to be with fellows like top-ranking Al Hemming in the field. One of the scores he fired, in the .45 caliber rapid fire, topped by one point the national record of 196 set last year by Paul Spavor. All of this added up to Reeves third successive State Championship.

Inspired by Reeves' leadership the Detroit Police regained the .38 State Championship it lost last year to the Michigan State team, won the other two team events, and created two new state records.

CONNECTICUT NINTH ANNUAL SMALL BORE

Until the last shot was fired on June 22 in the three-day ninth annual Connecticut Small Bore Rifle Tournament at East Haven no one could even guess who would be the 1941 champion. When the aggregate was posted Jack Lacy, who had placed first in only two of the eight matches in the championship, had piled up enough points to win over Dave

Carlson who, in turn, did all right for himself by winning the Remington Aggregate and placing first in the any sight Dewar and any sight 200 yard.

The tourney's first match was a novelty, 100 yards on the 50 meter target, and won by Miss Dorothea Schaub, who outscored the Lacy boys by three points.

H. D. Allyn grabbed off the 50 meter aggregate; San Takulsky was high in the metallic sight aggregate, and Ernie Pade tallied points enough to win the any sight aggregate.

The sons and daughters of famous small bore shooters began appearing in the win column at this match as Lorraine Lacy, daughter of Jim, won the junior match by outranking Fred Kuhn's son, Roy.

In another event, Eleanor Dunn came up from New York City to carry off the women's championship by beating out Dot Schaub by one point.

The usual big crowd turned out to watch the Swiss Match which had developed into a duel between Stiles Stevens, of North Haven, and A. E. Munson, Jr., of New York. This was the final match and after Stevens had been informed that he had fired 203 straight and that Munson had just missed out on his 158th shot, the Connecticut shooter fired the next shot into the ground and the match was over.

CLASS C SHOOTS

Harmarville Memorial Day Small Bore: Craig Rider just plugged along in this first annual May 30 shoot of the Rosedale Sportsmen's Association and after C. H. Kline, Lon Kemp, Lawrence Gorrell and Marion Eastep had taken all of the day's single match prizes, he stepped in to grab aggregate honors from a field of sixty. Rider's winning total of 1196-82x was not the whole story, though, for he added another possible to partner R. D. Berkheiser's 200 in copping the doubles match.

Vincennes Spring Small Bore: Host club officials of this annual Indiana match were gratified with the May 18 turnout of 50 competitors to the extent that they are planning a fall edition of the competition. Perfect shooting weather spurred James Ratliff to victory in the Grand Aggregate with 1190-64x after he, Frank Russell, Byron Hoover and Lee Sadler had monopolized early events.

Sparrows Point Annual Pistol: The Sparrows Point, Md., Police Department put on a whale of a show for the 123 competitors on June 22, and the shooters, themselves, came through with some fancy scores. Walter Walsh did the best job, taking the aggregate with 579, although pressed by George Lyons, Robert Schneeman, Thurman Barrier and G. M. Stewart. Fourteen teams were on hand, but Washington D. C.'s Police took both team events with scores of 1121 with the .22 and 1095 with center-fire.

Capitol Pistol Club Gallery: Everyone was glad to see Seattle's 14-year-old Jack Gilmour recover from his car sickness in time to win high marksman honors over the .22 National Match Course May 25. He deserved the medal and besides James Tucker, R. C. Cox and the rest of the Bremerton Marines had taken more than a share of honors from the field of thirty-five at Raymond, Wash. Tucker won the aggregate, Cox the expert aggregate.

Flint Mid-Summer Pistol: It took Clyde Sayers one match to warm up at this Michigan tourney, then the Detroit policeman won five of the next seven events to easily cop aggregate honors with 867. Babe Pierson, Casper Enkeman and Lester Thomas won the other three rounds and Thomas finished second and high expert in the aggregate. Mrs. Pierson's 830 was unchallenged by the sharpshooter class, while Paul Fakohany took four marksman awards, including the aggregate. Thirty competitors turned out for the annual matches.

COMING EVENTS

Miami Valley Pistol: A six-match aggregate score of 1115 brought H. V. Noble the Miami Valley Pistol title over a big field June 29. Ray Bracken pushed him all the way and finished second. More than 100 Ohio and nearby shooters competed. Jack Durbrow topped the experts with 1094; W. F. Anderson was high among the sharpshooters with 1088, and E. Savage's 1016 took marksman honors.

Florida State Small Bore: It was Marshall Johnson all the way in the Grand Aggregate of this three-day tourney at the Biscayne Club at Miami July 4-6. The St. Petersburg star took a commanding lead over the field of 40 on the first day and coasted to a 12-point victory over Dr. Fred P. Archer, Jr., Johnson scored 3179-200x. Robert Dixon, who finished strong after poor start, grabbed the any sight aggregate and took third place in the championship race with 3160. Johnson had the iron sight title. Dixon's Clearwater team won the team title with 1,577 x 1600 and Mrs. Effie Fears grabbed women's honors with 199-10x. V. E. Gregory and L. W. Abrams, fourth and fifth in the aggregate, tallied 3157 and 3154, respectively.

NON-REGISTERED EVENTS

Sparrows Point Small Bore: The Sparrows Point Rifle and Pistol Club played host on June 8 to nineteen Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington clubs, embodying 160 small bore shooters. It was their annual spring tournament at the Rossville, Md., range.

R. O. Wilman and the rest of the York Riflemen made off with the bulk of the awards. Wilman copped the 50 and 100 yard events and the aggregate of the two. Then Wilman and teammates Glatfelter, Berchtold, Hahn and Strayer toured the Dewar team event in winning fashion to take down five more silver medals.

California All-Night Small Bore: This annual all-night attraction broke almost every record of the Filtration Range from the number of registrations on down. Shooters totaling 135 assembled for the team and individual contest on June 28. The Twin Cities Rod and Gun Club team won the any sight team with 1988, while 1959 was enough to cop the metallic sight team for the Capital City No. 1 group. Bill Stephens of the Capital team captured the any sight aggregate with 798, while Robert Perkins commanded metallic honors. New range records were set by Lester Jeffrey, Harry Hoff, C. Pederson, Frank Whiting and Joe Guisto.

Gainesville Dedication Pistol Match: The new outdoor range of the Gainesville Rifle and Pistol Club was formally opened May 18 with a program of five pistol matches which drew 24 competitors. After three matches Ripley was paged for Logan Bleckley of Atlanta, Guy Stancil of Gainesville, and Bill Bryan of Athens, each had scored one first, one second and one third place. Bleckley's turn came again in the fourth match and he won it, but with no more events scheduled the aggregate was totalled for match five and the Atlanta star was the winner by two points over Bryan and ten over Stancil in third place.

New Mexico .30 Caliber Rifle: The New Mexico State .30 caliber Team Championship Trophy was retired on June 22 by the Santa Fe Club team which scored its third victory in this event over an unexpectedly large field. Santa Fe's score was 1124 for its five team members and they were followed by Duke City Rifle Association of Albuquerque with 1107. L. D. Wilson, of Santa Fe, won his second successive State Championship with a

The four classes of registered tournaments are indicated as follows: AA—National Matches; A—Regional; B—State Championships and large District Matches; C—Local; Unregistered matches are not coded. Classification of competitors for prize awards indicated by code and asterisk—C*, etc.

RIFLE

- 2 New Mexico (C), Small Bore Rifle, Clovis. J. B. Ledbetter, Clovis.
- 2-3 California (C*), Fernando Valley Rifle, Glendale. E. C. Hamley, Jr., 821 West Doran St.
- 2-3 Delaware (B*), Tidewaters Rifle, Wilmington. F. C. Wince, P. O. Box 302, Wilmington.
- 2-3 Oklahoma (B*), Magic Empire Rifle, Tulsa. Ray B. Whitaker, 114 South Detroit.
- 2-3 New York (B*), All Range Championship Rifle, Poughkeepsie. C. Hoyt Smith, P. O. Box 1009.
- 3 Missouri (C*), Greater St. Louis Rifle, St. Louis. John D. Whitney, 3117 Longfellow.
- 3 New Mexico (B*), State Small Bore, Clovis. B. L. Smith, Box 905, Santa Fe.
- 3 Illinois (C*), I. S. R. A. Rifle, Fort Sheridan. Thomas Compere, 336 North Wells Street, Chicago.
- 3 Indiana (C*), Wabash Valley Rifle, Terre Haute. W. E. Danner, 2325 North 11th St.
- 3 Iowa (B*), Southern Minnesota-Northern Iowa Rifle, Waterloo. Ralph W. Travis, 314 Insurance Building.
- 3 Ohio (B*), Zeppelin Rifle, Akron. J. C. Kelsey, 133 Highpoint Avenue, Akron.
- 3 Oregon (C*), Rifle Tournament, Clackamas. C. A. Kalmpff, 6028 N. E. 32nd, Portland.
- 9-10 Wisconsin (B*), State Small Bore, Racine. Oliver Moody, 5527 North 35th Street, Milwaukee.
- 10 California, Bay District Small Bore League Match, Richmond. C. DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland.
- 10 Colorado (B*), Small Bore Rifle, Denver. L. F. Markle, 1006 Olive St.
- 10 Indiana, State .30 Caliber Matches, Frankfort. John F. Holmes, 400 N. 4th, Lafayette.
- 10 New York (C*), Summer Rifle, Oneida. Burts I. Frederick, 223 Stone St.
- 10 New York, "Free Rifle" .30 Caliber, Karner. D. C. Reilly, 55 North Pine Ave., Albany.
- 10 Ohio (C), Ohio State Rifle Team Matches, Mt. Gilead. C. I. Greer, Box 123, Barberton.
- 10 Pennsylvania (C*), Rifle, Allentown. Alfred M. Newhard, 111 East Susquehanna St., Allentown.
- 10 Pennsylvania (C), Rosedale Sportsman Association Rifle, Harmarville. James Afleck, Box 2038, Pittsburgh.
- 16 North Carolina (C*), Registered Rifle, Greensboro. Dr. Joseph B. Stevens, Box 1048.
- 16-17 Illinois (C*), Blackhawk Rifle, Aurora. E. J. Rock, 1162 Highland Ave., Oak Park.
- 16-17 Ohio (B*), Fort Harmar Rifle, Marietta. H. W. Meiser, 621 Seventh Street.
- 17 Minnesota (B*), State Rifle, Virginia. K. W. Cruse, 2705 39th Ave. South, Minneapolis.
- 17 New York (C*), Small Bore Rifle, Glens Falls. Walter A. Green, 41 Hudson, South Glens Falls.
- 17 New York (C*), 4th Annual Small Bore, Glens Falls. Paul H. Colburn, Box 62.
- 17 Pennsylvania (C*), Pre-Perry Rifle, Galetton. Basil Tuller, 47 Germania St.
- 17 Pennsylvania, Small Bore Rifle, Philadelphia. W. H. Babrenburg, 2006 E. Orleans St.
- 17 Wisconsin, Small Bore, Janesville. John D. Wemstrom, 217 North Walnut St.
- 17 New York, Small Bore, Roslyn. Gen. F. M. Waterbury, 70 E. 45th St., New York, N. Y.
- 17 New York, Small Bore, Peekskill. Gen. F. M. Waterbury, 70 E. 45th St., New York, N. Y.
- 17 Pennsylvania (C), Allegheny Valley Rifle Tournament, Kittanning. (Open to Allegheny League members only.) W. E. Forbes, 605 Campbell, New Kensington.
- 24 Iowa (C*), Eastern Iowa Rifle, Muscatine. Harold L. Wallace, 1209 Kansas St., Muscatine.
- 24 Wisconsin, Fall Big Bore Rifle, Racine. Oliver Moody, 5527 North 35th St., Milwaukee.
- 31 to Sept. 1 Arizona (C*), Winslow Rifle, Winslow. John C. Wamble, 311 Kinsley Avenue.
- August 31-September 1 Maine, Annual Rifle and Pistol, Damariscotta. R. P. Robinson, Damariscotta.
- August 31 to September 7 Ohio (AA*), National Small Bore R'fle, Camp Perry. National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington, D. C.

AUGUST

PISTOL

- 1-2-3 California (B*), 7th Southwest-International Pistol, San Diego. R. S. Pease, Route 3, Box 84.
- 1-2-3 Colorado (A*), Northwest Regional Pistol, Denver. Frank M. McBride, 2018 South Clayton, Denver.
- 2-3 New Jersey, Police Pistol, Irvington. George C. Krasle, Police Department.
- 2-3 Maine (B*), State Pistol, Auburn. Lester E. Clark, 7 Wilson Street.
- 3 Minnesota (C*), Annual Arrowhead Pistol, Virginia. Andrew Bradish, Virginia.
- 3 Pennsylvania (C*), Cumberland Valley Pistol, Chambersburg. J. Humbird Linn, 232 Lincoln Way, East.
- 9-10 Louisiana (B*), State Pistol, Shreveport. L. N. Semon, P. O. Box 505.
- 10 Maryland (B*), State Pistol, Sparrows Point. O. Thiessen, 14 Greystone Road, Halethorpe Station, Baltimore.
- 10 Washington (C), Capital Pistol League, Raymond. Malcolm B. Edwards, Box 776, South Bend.
- 10 Iowa (B*), State Pistol, Mason City. G. G. Cooper, 816 Telephone Building.
- 10 Wisconsin (C), Registered Pistol, Racine. J. J. Ring, 1842 N. 83 Street, Wauwatosa.
- 10-11 New Jersey,* Mid-Summer Pistol, Trenton. Bill Lewis, P. O. Box 1420.
- 15-16 West Virginia (C), Registered Pistol, Richwood. Clitus R. Simon.
- 15-17 New Jersey, Teaneck Pistol, Teaneck. Lt. Theo. Morgan, Police Department.
- 16-17 California (B*), Pacific State Pistol, San Francisco. E. J. Dutil, 635 Washington St.
- 17 Ohio (C*), Restricted Class Pistol, Akron. J. C. Kelsey, 133 Highpoint Ave.
- 17 District of Columbia (C*), National Capital Pistol, Washington. Tom Arnold, 7 McCleary Street, Hyattsville, Maryland.
- 30-31 Michigan (B*), Pre-Perry Pistol, Detroit. Joe Nikoden, 15024 White, Allen Park.
- August 30-31 & September 1, Washington (B*), Capital Pistol League Championship, Raymond. Malcolm B. Edwards, Box 776, South Bend.

(Continued on page 42)

NON-REGISTERED EVENTS

(Continued from page 41)

231 score. Jack Moore topped the Experts with his 229; Frank Foster beat the Sharpshooters with the same count, and Fred Seward outscored the Marksmen by virtue of a 216 result.

New Mexico Gallery Rifle and Pistol: The seven weeks long Gallery Rifle and Pistol Championship ended in one-sided victories for the New Mexico Military Institute rifle team and the Roswell Rifle Club pistol squad. The N. M. M. I. group went over the four-stage rifle course and scored 9322 points with the Roswell Club's riflers second with 9162. The Roswell pistol squad won the handgun event with a score 4344.

Bear Rock Small Bore: Seventy-one competitors made the May 11 Small Bore shoot of the Bear Rock Rifle Team the most successful the Allentown, Pa., group has ever staged, and the winning scores in the aggregate testify that the field was at its best. Dave Carlson was the big winner, dropping only two points of the 1200 with San Kurtz second three points back. Fred Kuhn scored a good 1193 for third spot.

Rifle at Janesville: Nine matches including two standing events and three aggregates drew 75 registrations for the May 18 competition at Janesville, Wisconsin. The standing events, 50 and 100 yards any sights, broke up the field in the Grand Aggregate which Russ Pope, of Madison, took with 1545 x 1600, just 15 points ahead of S. Bornslaeger. Ed Lyons fired a great 190 x 200 standing at 100 yards to also take the standing aggregate with 370. Lew Mason's 1189 beat E. L. Lord by one mark in the prone aggregate.

Florida State .30 caliber: Winning half of the six individual matches including the Florida State .30 Caliber Championship and the Service Rifle Aggregate, William P. Smith stole the show at this May 17 and 18 tourney at Winter Haven. Smith took the Coast Guard event, 20 shots at 200 and 300 yards kneeling or sitting, with 92, and the State title, standing and prone at 200, 600 and 100 yards, with 140 x 150. His aggregate was 319 x 350. The Sunshine Rifle and Pistol Club team of Johnston, Lewallen, Bridgeland and Bostwick captured team honors with 538.

OCTOBER

RIFLE

5 **Illinois (C*),** I. S. R. A. Rifle, Fort Sheridan. Thomas Compere, 336 North Wells Street, Chicago.
11-12 **Georgia,** South Atlantic Rifle, Savannah. W. Parker Waters, 708 E. 36th St.
12 **Illinois (B*),** Small Bore Rifle, Deerfield. George Postels, 2 North Sheridan Road, Highland Park.
15 **Wisconsin,** Small Bore Rifle, Janesville. John D. Wernstrom, 217 North Walnut St.
26 **California (C*),** Sacramento Valley Small Bore, Sacramento. Ray Murphy, 2753 Riverside Boulevard.

PISTOL

4-5 **District of Columbia (B*),** Metropolitan Police Open Pistol, Washington. Sergeant S. R. McKee, Police Range, Washington, D. C.
5 **New Mexico,** Pistol Matches. B. L. Smith, Box 905, Santa Fe.
5 **T. H. Double Ten Pistol,** Honolulu. H. Y. Wong, Sumitomo Bank Building, Honolulu.
12 **T. H. Double Ten Pistol,** Honolulu. H. Y. Wong, Sumitomo Bank Bldg., Honolulu.
19 **California (C*),** San Francisco Traffic Police Monthly, Fort Funston. E. J. Dutil, 635 Washington Street.

NOVEMBER

RIFLE

2 **California (C),** Northern California, Richmond. C. DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland.

PISTOL

2 **California (B),** Annual Club Matches, San Diego. R. S. Pease, Route 3, Box 84, San Diego.
9 **Arizona,** Election of Officers Pistol, Tucson. Howard Hathaway, Box 71.
16 **California (C*),** San Francisco Police Monthly, Fort Funston. E. J. Dutil, 635 Washington Street.

OBITUARY

DR. HARRY S. SWOPE

Kentucky lost one of its most active workers in the development of fish and game activities in the death of Dr. Harry S. Swope, of Ashland. The 65-year-old retired physician, who was a leader in civic and political affairs, had been suffering with a heart ailment for two years. He was a life member of the N. R. A., the first president of the Boyd County Fish and Game Association and a past president of the Kentucky State Fish and Game Association. In addition he served a term in the state legislature, where he promoted measures to improve conditions in outdoor sports.

STOLEN GUNS

52 H.B., Marksman stock, serial 49747; stock marked "Axel Gordon"; 52 Standard, serial unknown; Lyman Targetspot, 10X; Winchester 8X scope. Stolen June 15th from Wheaton, Illinois range. Notify Byron Putman, Secretary, Wheaton Rifle Club, Inc., 814 Ellis Ave., Wheaton, Ill.

DOPE BAG

Conducted by F. C. NESS

THIS MONTH:

Autoloaders In Canada - The .25 Hornet • .250 Magnum • .25 Sniper • .257 Miller • .250 Gipson • .25 Niedner • .25 H.P. Special • .250 Ackley • Loading Caution - Lee Dots In Hunting • Scopes • An Aspect of Recoil • Holster Bolster • Ackley Wildcats • Improved Clay Pigeons • Old Service Outfit • Trade Dope • Letters.

Autoloading Rifles are legal arms in most of Canada and, in suitable calibers, their use in the hunting fields of most of the provinces is permitted, the only definite exception being the Northwest Territories, according to a reply just received from the Canadian Department of Mines and Resources of Ottawa.

We shared the common belief that all "automatic" arms were barred in Canada until our friend Commander E. W. Strother wanted to take his new .300 Remington Autoloading rifle into Quebec and we investigated the matter with his excellent cooperation. After some correspondence back and forth friend Strother got the low-down in the reply from the Department of Mines and Resources, which we are quoting below for the information of our readers. It was dated July 7, 1941, and signed "J. Smart, Acting Controller":

"After consulting the Provincial game administrations I am now able to furnish you with the following information concerning the use of automatic rifles for big game hunting in Canada. As you are well aware by the term 'automatic,' 'autoloading' is usually intended.

"The only automatic firearms prohibited importation under the Dominion Customs Act are automatic pistols. Automatic rifles and shotguns are eligible for importation the same as other rifles and shotguns, provided, of course, that the tourist first obtains the required non-resident weapon permit from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, under the Defense of Canada Regulations.

British Columbia—The use of an automatic rifle in the hunting of big game is permissible . . . however, the use of any type of .22 rifle is prohibited in the hunting of big game."

Alberta—Section 9 of the 1941 Game Act 'does not prohibit the use of automatic rifles but it does prohibit the use of automatic shotguns for big game hunting.'

Saskatchewan—The use of automatic rifles for taking big game is legal. There are, however, certain restrictions in our Game Act against the use of automatic shotguns . . .

Manitoba—Provincial officer's opinion is against use of automatics for big game hunting, no advantage over standard rifle, increase accident hazard, not many used. Presumably not prohibited by law.

Ontario—The use of automatic rifles has never been prohibited in the Province of Ontario, nor have we noted any detrimental effect or cause for depletion of big game over that of rifles of other action type.

Quebec—Complete information not yet received.*

New Brunswick—No regulations in our Province which prohibit the use of automatic rifles for big game hunting.

Nova Scotia—The use of automatic rifles for the hunting of big game is not prohibited.

Yukon Territory—Automatic rifles are not mentioned in the law and therefore use is presumed to be permitted.

Northwest Territories—Automatic rifles forbidden."

* The non-official opinion is that autoloading rifles may be used.

.25-CALIBER "WILD CATS"

The smallest "special" to take .25-caliber bullets was probably the necked-up .22 Hornet made into a straight case for his single-shot rifle by Walter Oakey. It was accurate, cheap, light, comparatively noiseless and killed soft game over short ranges without undue tearing, which was its purpose.

On the big side we have the .25-caliber Magnums on the .275 Holland & Holland case necked down. In 1936, Elmer Keith wrote me his group had the .250 O'Neil Magnum working beautifully except for excessive throat erosion, which seemed to call for a more abrupt case shoulder. Sukalle barrels, .001-inch over-size, were used. One loaded with Sisk graphite wads was washed out after 250 rounds. The other barrel lost accuracy after 600 rounds. Their loads gave 4250 f.s. with the 60-grain bullet and 3800 f.s. with the 87-grain bullet. The necked down .30 Newton case "washed out barrels clean with 200 rounds" until the case shoulder was changed to a greater and very sharp angle. They had fine accuracy with the sharply pointed .25 High Power bullets of W. T. & C. W. make, which, according to his letter, Keith had finally gotten developed exactly as he wanted them in 87, 100 and 110-grain weights. Keith also stated in that letter that No. 4064 powder was the best propellant.

* * *

The .25 Sniper Magnum made by R. E. Davis has been mentioned more than once in these columns. I remember his stating he was able to get higher velocity with the W.R.A. No. 115½ primer than with the hotter W.R.A. No. 120 primer, as the former permitted nearly 3 grains weight more powder in the .22 Sniper and 4½ grains more in the .25 Sniper at apparently equivalent pressures. Using the milder primer the increase in velocity was 183 f.s. with the 87-grain bullet (.25 Remington O.P.). The charge was 53.5 grains No. 4064 and the m.v., 3883 f.s. The reformed .30-'06 sample case, as necked to the .25 Sniper by Davis and checked by the writer, was .011 inch longer from base to cone than the standard .30-'06. The purpose of increasing the body length in .25 caliber was to increase the powder capacity for those who might want it. These .25 Sniper cartridges readily fed through the magazines and actions of M-1903, M-1917 and M-1898 Mauser rifles. Dies for reformating cases, in the powerful Pacific reloading tool, were furnished with each rifle.

The 87-grain bullet, at 3700 f.s. in the .25 Sniper, was fired for drop and wind deflection in direct comparison with an 8-caliber 55-grain bullet at 4140 f.s. in the .220 Swift. In a 24-mile cross wind these .22-caliber bullets were falling nearly a yard below aim and blowing just over 4 feet with the wind. The .25 caliber bullets dropped and blew about 33% less. The maximum velocity reported by Mr. Davis for his .25 Sniper and the 87-grain bullet was 4136 f.s. at 15 feet from the muzzle, when using No. 4350 powder.

* * *

.257 Miller Magnum. The .25-caliber Miller Magnums which Ralph Waldo Miller builds on the .275 H. & H. Magnum case have also been mentioned in this department. The standard loads, adopted in 1938, with W. T. & C. W. bullets, were:

60-gr.	C.P.	48.0	grs.	No. 4320
"	"	55.0	"	No. 4064
"	"	58.0	"	"
87-gr.	"	58.0	"	"
"	"	62.0	"	"
"	"	50.0	"	HiVel #3
100-gr.	"	52.0	"	No. 4064
110-gr.	"	44.0	"	HiVel #3

Where two loads are given for the same powder and bullet the lighter charge is intended for Winchester actions, the heavier loads being used only in Remington 30-S or M-1917 actions.

E. G. Little reported some very fine accuracy and some very flat trajectories for these Miller Magnums using Sukalle barrels. Also Catalina goats and boars succumbed nicely when tickled in the proper place with 87-grain bullets at the high velocities attained. No chronographed velocities are available at this writing. The 60-grain and 87-grain bullets required a 14-inch twist; the 10-inch twist performed well only with longer bullets weighing more than 100 grains. Displacement of steel with these .25-caliber bullets was said to approximate that of the .300 Magnum.

I have a set of targets fired by a typical .257 Miller Magnum, including combination groups that indicate the scope-sighted rifle has about the same impact at 50, 100 and 200 yards. The poorest loads and biggest groups including the widest fliers reported by E. G. Little (who has lived practically three-quarters of a century) were: 1 1/8 x 7/8 at 100 yards, 3 1/4 by 1 1/4 at 200 yards and 5 x 2 1/2 at 300 yards. The first dimension in each group refers to the extreme horizontals in inches. This rifle has a light barrel, .850 x .565 x 26 inches, on a 30-S Remington action, and it weighs 9 pounds with its Zeiss Zielfinder scope sight. The barrel was turned down to the given dimensions by Miller, the .850-inch diameter coming 2 3/4 inches forward of the breech. The standard load for its 14-inch pitch of rifling was 58.0 grains of No. 4064 and the Western No. 8 1/2G primer behind the W. T. & C. W. 87-grain bullet. The best loads were finely accurate. Little says the absence of unaccountable fliers or wild shots in all these .257 Miller Magnums is remarkable, as is the general absence of metallic fouling; thanks to lubricating base wads.

In the absence of formal velocity tests considerable shooting was done for drop and for killing effect on wild horses, burros and game with these rifles. A combination load of 52.0 grains No. 4320 and 6.0 grains No. 80 was tried at 50 yards on a 5/8-inch steel plate which previously had resisted the efforts of all standard cartridges in .30-'06, .270-Winchester, 300-Magnum and .275-Magnum calibers. The bullet was a home-made one of bronze which weighed 74 grains. Another bullet which went through the plate cleanly was the Remington, 87-grain .25-35 S. P., driven by 54.0 grains No. 4064 and 6.0 grains No. 80 in the .257 Miller Magnum. Little said it apparently made no difference as to the results whether the No. 80 charge was loaded first, last, or thoroughly mixed with the main charge. Only straight loads are now used.

Caution. Let me say here that this or any other combination load is not recommended by the Dope Bag because of the likelihood of something going wrong, although such loads usually develop less barrel heat and apparently lower pressures. Duplex loads heat the barrel about 50% less than straight charges, and, if anybody, they should interest Ordnance people who have a barrel-cooling problem in connection with all their fast-firing small arms. Such loads are fascinating to the experienced experimenter, but their complexities render them impractical for regular use by anyone and makes them a dangerous plaything for the average experienced reloader.

About the middle of 1939, the Miller Magnum case and load was improved by continued experimenting. The shoulder was

changed to conform with accepted requirements for efficient hydraulic flow, and the powder-capacity and loads increased. The case accommodated 70 grains of powder, but the previously adopted loads of 58 to 62 grains were used behind the lighter bullets, weighing from 60 to 75 grains. Little tried 48.0 grains of No. 4064 behind the 130-grain bullet and got an inch group at 100 yards and a spread of less than 3 inches at 200 yards, per five shots. These were 6.5-mm. and .256 Newton bullets swaged down to fit the .257 Magnum. As before, graphite base wads were used to improve accuracy and mitigate throat erosion. Direct endurance comparisons with and without wads indicated quicker throat erosion, up to 50%, when the wads were omitted. The outfit gives much finer accuracy with the lighter bullets. Even a 12-inch twist was found to be inadequate for these longer bullets, of 100 grains to 130 grains weight.

In the 10-inch twist the W. T. & C. W. 130-grain bullet showed a long-range trajectory like that of the 100-grain .270 Winchester factory cartridge, thus indicating an m.v. in the neighborhood of 3400 f.s. for the .257 Magnum with that heavy bullet. This 10-inch twist also handled the 140-grain bullet, reduced to a diameter of .256-.2565 inch, with 50 grains of No. 4064, and with even better accuracy. In the other extreme, it also handled the 87-grain bullets fairly well, or to the tune of 1½-inch groups at 100 yards.

Last fall, the 130-grain bullet and 55.0 grains of No. 4350 was tried on a Catalina goat at 225 yards. Striking behind the shoulder, the bullet passed through and left ample inside material on the ground for an adequate blood trail, which, however, was not needed, since the beast died where he had stood. The 87-grain loads were also tried on 550-pound African beasts effectively. In one case both shoulders were pierced and the animal "never moved" from the spot. Another hit in the rear end also dropped, but this one did not die immediately. In Alaska the .257 Miller Magnum has killed black bear, mountain goat and an eagle at long range; all with one shot each with the 100-grain bullet. Similar effectiveness is evident in the stories which come from Hawaii, where the 60-grain bullet was used. From all the reports I have received it is evident that no

"wild cat" has had more tests for killing power than these Miller Magnums.

* * *

.250 Gipson Magnum. Shortly after I heard from Keith, Verner Gipson wrote me that his .25-caliber Magnum was "working out fine". He had noticed no throat erosion as yet and he was using fairly heavy loads. These were: 46 grains of No. 4064 behind the 100-grain bullet and 48 to 50.0 grains with the 87-grain weight. He also had good killing effect on woodchuck at 150 yards with 44 grains of Pyro D. G. and the Remington 87-grain O. P. bullet.

About a year later (1938) Gipson reported there was still no throat erosion after firing 400 rounds. He had, however, increased each of his charges ½ grain by that time. The only new load he had added was 44 grains of No. 4064 behind the 110-grain bullet. He had no luck at all with the 117-grain B. T.

Early this year we received our first report from a purchaser of the .250 Gipson Magnum. J. C. White wrote in praise of it after having his M-70 Winchester converted with a 30-inch barrel (1¼ X 1 inch) and a 16-inch twist. He used a 90-grain Barnes double-jacket bullet with 56 grains of 4064 and found it to be finely accurate as well as a practical vermin outfit on windy days. Apparently, it is capable of shooting groups smaller than a minute-of-angle spread, or an inch at 100 yards. One 13-shot group was fired at 225 yards and it measured 2½ inches spread, center-to-center. White said this was the improved form of case with the regular .275 H. & H. Magnum body taper and a longer neck than that of the very similar .250 O'Neil Magnum. He remarked about the unfailing ease of extraction, the tight breeching or headspacing and the fine bluing job; "the finest I have ever seen."

* * *

The .25-Krag-Niedner was very popular at one time especially for falling block single-shot actions. The .30-40 Krag case was cut off and necked down to virtually duplicate the rimless .250 Savage in rimmed form. The secret of success with these rifles, outside of the closely fitting target chambering, was the relatively slow pitch of rifling of one turn in 14 inches. In the .25-Krag Neidner, as in the .250 Savage, this twist gave fine accuracy with 100-grain bullets and better accuracy with the 60-grain and 87-grain bullets than

any quicker twist could possibly produce. The Niedner twist was 12 inches and intended for the 100-grain bullet only. The modern 10-inch twist is a compromise one for all these bullets, it being made that quick only to stabilize the flight of the 117-grain bullet. Thus the old .250 Savage and .25 Krag-Niedner will give finer accuracy with 87-grain bullets than any other .25-caliber rifle of quicker twist, be it .25-35 or .257 Roberts or even .257 Magnum. The .303 British case is similarly employed for the .25.

* * *

The .25 H.P. Special was also popular as made by necking down the .30-'06 case for bolt-action varmint and game rifles, by both Niedner and Griffin & Howe. Each maker had his own shoulder angle and the cases were not interchangeable. Both makers furnished prepared cases to fit their respective chambers closely.

* * *

The .250 Ackley Magnum is a new .25-caliber made by combining the two prevailing ideas of a long neck and of a sharp shoulder. On the Barnes chronograph it developed high velocity with maximum loads of HiVel No. 2 powder. In these tests the 87-grain bullet registered 4260 f.s.; the 90-grain bullet, 4160 f.s.; the 100-grain, 3730 f.s., and the 125-grain, 3510 f.s. The rifle was a reborred .220 Swift on the M-70 Winchester action. This .25-caliber belted "wildcat" has less body taper than the original .300 H. & H. Magnum case.

One of the best .25-caliber Magnums was built on the .275 H. & H. Magnum case by Lyman McCrea, who is temporarily out of business. A picture of this cartridge was shown in the April Dope Bag.

* * *

Rifle Loads

.30-40 Krag (F.A. primers)*

110-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	43 to 51 grains, 2650 to 3200 f.s.
Best powder, No. 3031:	37.0 to 45.5 grains, 2385 to 2950 f.s.
150-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	40 to 47.3 grains, 2375 to 2875 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4064:	40 to 46 grains, 2405 to 2770 f.s.
172-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	46.0 grains and 2675 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4064:	34.0 to 42.0 grains, 2110 to 2565 f.s.
180-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	37.4 to 45.0 grains, 2210 to 2600 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4064:	36.0 to 42.0 grains, 2165 to 2495 f.s.
220-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	36.7 to 41.0 grains, 2000 to 2225 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4064:	33.0 to 41.0 grains, 1900 to 2265 f.s.

Caliber .30-'06 (F.A. primers)*

110-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	48.0 to 56.0 grains, 2825 to 3235 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4320:	52.0 to 60.5 grains, 2900 to 3345 f.s.
150-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	46.0 to 54.4 grains, 2575 to 3000 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4320:	48.0 to 57.5 grains, 2600 to 3080 f.s.
172-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	45.5 to 51.0 grains, 2500 to 2800 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4320:	45.0 to 51.0 grains, 2480 to 2860 f.s.
180-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	45.0 to 50 grains, 2425 to 2690 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4320:	45.0 to 53.5 grains, 2380 to 2785 f.s.
220-gr. bullet, No. 17½ powder:	42.0 to 48.0 grains, 2110 to 2350 f.s.
Best powder, No. 4320:	42.0 to 49.0 grains, 2115 to 2425 f.s.

* Cut the heavier of the two loads given for each bullet and powder about 5% when modern N.C. primers are used.

* * *

White Flyers, the well-known disc, clay-pipe, shotgun target of the Western Cartridge Co., has been improved. In its new form it is a paradox because it is both stronger and weaker. It has been reinforced to withstand shipping and trapping strains, but also it has been scored inside, in segments,

From 1874 dates the .45 Colt S.A. and ammunition shown in the accompanying cut. The Service ammunition made at Frankford Arsenal came a dozen to the box, each cartridge containing 30 grains of powder and 250 grains of lead with an inside (concealed central) primer and anvil. Gun and ammunition had been packed away until it was dug up and photographed by A. L. Buchman of Springfield, N. J. The ammunition was made in April, 1874.

The .45-caliber revolver was used by the

The 1874 .45 Colt Outfit



to promote breaking in larger pieces under the impact of only a few shot pellets. Poor breaks will now be more positive and easily seen by the official scorer, because those single pieces will be larger, or of segment size, according to its designers.

In the cut, opposite, the figure 1 marks the weakening improvement of deep inside scoring between the segments which are indicated by the figure 2, while the figure 3 indicates the strengthening improvement or shoulder reinforcement on the outside of the limestone-and-pitch target.

* * *

Lee Center Circles are available for hunting scope reticles as well as for target scopes, in which latter the perfectly round small center dot now has been enthusiastically used and acclaimed by match competitors and varmint shooters almost everywhere, according to reports received here. We would expect the same enthusiastic reaction from hunters when they realize that the round aiming dot can be installed in their low-power scopes. T. K. Lee is also praised on all sides for his very prompt service on installations.

The best dot sizes are those which cover from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch down to an inch per 100 yards in low-power scopes. In the high-power target scope they can be had as small as $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, whereas in hunting scopes the cross hairs themselves are not uncommonly that coarse. For very small center dots such cross hairs must be replaced by finer hairs. T. K. Lee, alone, is equipped to install that small round black dot which seems to float in the center of the field of view, and which is not to be confused with the center-dot furnished by him a couple of years ago. In order to avoid the risk of breaking the essentially fine cross hairs and to insure proper installation the entire scope should be sent to Lee for the job.

* * *

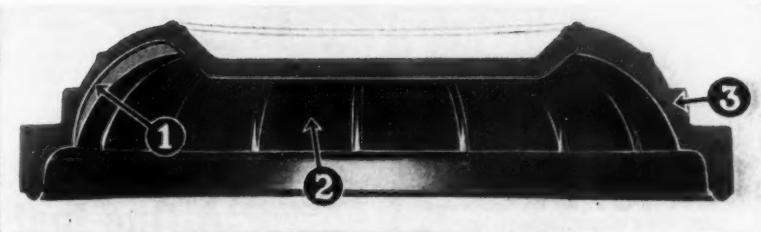
Recoil Impact against the shoulder does not vary in direct ratio with the total energy or momentum of recoil of different rifles for a given load. Rifles having practically equal recoil may each deliver a different degree or energy of impact against the shoulder. This was demonstrated by an interesting test conducted recently by a scientific laboratory (M.I.T.). The difference may be accounted for by the time element; that is by different rates of application.

A National Match Springfield weighing 8 pounds, 11 ounces was fired with .30 caliber Remington and M1 Service ammunition. A Johnson Semiautomatic rifle, weighing 9 pounds, 12 ounces was fired in the same manner with the same loads. The butts of these rifles, fired in horizontal position, were firmly pressed against a steel socket containing a hardened 2-inch steel ball, which in turn contacted a lead block supported by a concrete pier. Both rifles were fired three times with each load and the indents made by each impact were averaged and transformed into energy figures with the following impact:

M-1903 N.M.	(M1)	9.30 ft.-lbs.
" "	(R.A.)	7.08 "
Johnson R-S-7	(M1)	7.00 "
" "	(R.A.)	5.95 "

* * *

P. O. Ackley sent in a fine set of dummy cartridges, representative of his line of custom calibers. First there is the .270 Newton on the .30 Newton case, then the .250 Ackley Magnum on the .300 H. & H. Magnum and the .228 Ackley on the .30-06 case and its rimmed version on the .30-40 Krag case. The next group is comprised of the Improved .22 Hi-Power and Zipper and the .22-250 on the order of the .22 Varminter. All the above are characterized by sharp shoulders, long



The Improved White Flyer

necks and very little body taper to promote extraction. Finally there are the Improved Lovell and Hornet which have short necks but sharp shoulders and straight sides. His maximum Lovell was made to take 17 grains of No. 4198 easily, but some of his customers are packing into this case as much as 19.4 grains and apparently getting by with it in strong, closely-breeched actions.

The Holster-Bolster



Holster-Bolster has been received from Norman Albree, the erstwhile Monomount maker. A stout, pliable well-oiled leather shoulder-strap, shaped for comfortable fit, is laced by rawhide to the flat, broad stiff bolster which in turn is fastened to the belt rig to take the weight of gun and holster off the waist and hip. We intend to try ours with a George Lawrence belt holster and will have more to say about it when we have done so. Over the week-end we found it worked also with a two-loop flap holster, whose Luger pistol was never before carried more easily and comfortably.

TRADE DOPE

Actions Etched and refinished by T. W. Hildemann of Frenchtown, Montana, are very attractive according to some sketches and photos just viewed. Hildemann claims to be no more than an amateur, but his workmanship seems to belie that, and his prices are reasonable.

* * *

New Address for Game Breeder & Sportsman magazine, formerly on 42d Street, now is: 114 E. 32nd St., New York City. And, after August 1, it will be Philip B. Sharpe, Gettysburg, Pa., instead of South Portland, Maine. Phil is now busily moving southward.

New Colt souvenir offering is a practical tie clip of polished sterling silver bearing a miniature .45 Service pistol, which qualifies it as proper military jewelry. It comes in a gift box, too.

* * *

Lucite Ear Stoppers are available in several sizes for different persons' ears, we were told by A. J. Ebersberger, technician for Dr. J. B. Nelson, 8038 Jenkins Arcade, Pittsburgh, Pa., who called here over the weekend. He left samples in small, large and medium sizes. If necessary, to suit special cases, extra large and extra small sizes can also be furnished. The smooth, glass-like, round ball of this Nelson product makes an effective and most sanitary stopper against gun noise on the firing line. They are now being developed also for swimmers, in a less sanitary rubber covered model.

* * *

Magic Wand Welder is an effective electric outfit for arc or flame welding of different metals at home, according to the exhibits just received from Frank Mittermeier, which include a Mauser bolt-handle, firing pin and other firearm parts. The complete outfit, including a book of instructions, costs \$20.

* * *

James E. Moon has been making his excellent rust-inhibiting lubrication, Moon Sleek, for fine gun actions for the past couple of years, but only on special order. Now he is at last prepared to sell it in various quantities and in different forms, liquid or grease, plain or graphited. Also bullet lubricants in various shapes and either plain or colloidal-graphited. Watch for his forthcoming advertisement.

* * *

L. E. Wilson, best known for his popular Universal Shell Trimmer also makes chambering reamers, throat gauges, cartridge headspace gauges and rifle headspace gauges. Recently he has installed new furnace equipment, new marking equipment and additional measuring equipment for his most exacting toolmaker's work. For one thing, this has resulted in an improvement in the heat treatment, accuracy and appearance of his gauges.

* * *

Compartment Box for .38 Special handloads, with 50 spaces to hold the cartridges separately, is offered by G. H. Huhn of Elberon and Long Beach, New Jersey. Boxes and interior dividers are of stout cardboard, the tops being covered with plain brown paper. The price is only a jitney.

* * *

Benjamin Air Rifle Co. sent in an illustrated circular which reminds us of many pleasant moments with their .17 and .22 caliber breech-loading air pistols and air rifles. Those we used were accurate and powerful at short range, but their air-compression chambers had to be pumped muzzle first with a piston which pulled out in front. The new models have a more convenient method, a handle and lever under the barrel. Double-skirted lead pellets are used.

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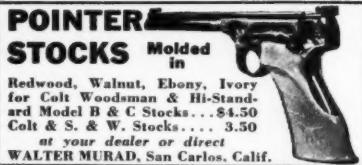
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J. R. BUHMILLER Eureka, Montana.



New Marble-Goss receiver sight has been received from Marbles Arms & Mfg. Company for the 513TR Remington target rifle. This model MG513 sight has a very stout extension base for a two-screw attachment to the left side of the receiver. The usual reliable Goss click control of zero adjustments in both planes and the good Watson-type eyepiece are included in this new model. First inspection discloses no faults.

* * *

W. C. Redfield, en route East, stopped off here and told of new facilities being installed at the recently enlarged plant of the Redfield Gun Sight Corporation to take care of the greatly increased and continually increasing demand for Redfield metallic sights and scope mounts. He was due back in Denver by July 7.

* * *

Lyman A. McCrea has been inducted into the Service (now at Benicia Arsenal), and has returned all orders, deposits, and unfinished gunsmith work, as he had to leave his business on very short notice. No more McCrea bull pups or Magnums until he returns and again hangs out his shingle. This has already happened to other gunsmiths. Recently F. W. Beckert and R. U. Milhoan answered Uncle Sam's call. Also, W. H. Church has gone back to defense work.

* * *

C. C. Johnson, the demon 2-R Lovell converter of Thackery, Ohio, informs us he has taken over the Red Head reloading press business from Earl Naramore who is now in the Service. As was announced in these columns, the vertical Red Head tool is adapted for Ideal dies and tool parts.

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LETTERS

Hornet Lead Loads. I see that there is a lot of kicking about the .22 Hornet spoiling so much small game shot with it. I noticed this in several outdoor magazines, and I found the same trouble with the 2350 and 2625 f.s. loads, and I am using a Savage Model-19H 1933 rifle. I went after a load that would not destroy the meat of a rabbit or grouse, and after trying several I got a good load that is accurate up to 100 yards and one that destroys no more meat than the .22 Long Rifle cartridge does. I use the Ideal No. 22637, 53-grain, lead-alloy bullet (6.5 grains No. 80 Powder) containing 93 percent lead and 7 percent antimony. You can go to 90 percent lead and 10 percent antimony if you want as high a speed as 1800 f.s., but I aim to stay around 1550 to 1600 f.s., and that is fast enough for 100-yard work on small game. I have had excellent results in my rifle with this load.

I have tried several loads and different bullets, but the above is the best in my rifle, and they do not destroy the game, but surely stop it on the spot, even to coyotes and bobcats. This may be what some of the Hornet fans are looking for.—U. S. H.

Answer: Thank you for your letter giving your experiences with the Ideal 53-grain lead-alloy bullet and 6.5 grains weight No. 80 Powder in the .22 Hornet as a small-game load which kills without mutilation when used even on the softest type of game.

I am using a similar load in the .22 Hornet, which consists of the Loverin-Ideal 44-grain gas-check bullet sized .225 inch with a charge of 4.7 grains weight No. 80 Powder. I figure the muzzle velocity is 1500 f.s. It shoots 4 inches lower than the Winchester Soft Point factory load at 100 yards, and it is equally accurate.

I also use this bullet in the .22 Niedner-Magnum with charges as high as 12.2 grains weight No. 80, giving good accuracy. Even in the .22 Hornet I have used charges as high as 8.6 grains weight, which gives as high as 2000 f.s. muzzle velocity, and 2 3/4-inch groups at 100 yards in the 417 Stevens barrel.

In the .22 Niedner-Magnum, which has a very close chamber, I size this bullet .224-inch diameter for the best results.

Sometime ago I reported results in the Dope Bag which one of our members had with the Ideal 45-grain gas-check bullet in the .22 Hornet, using charges as high as 10.3 grains weight of I.M.R. Powder No. 1204, which shot to the same zero as the Winchester Soft Point factory load in the same .22 Hornet rifle.

* * *

.410 vs. Alligators. Along about October of last year two pals of mine and I got the .410 fever. Gun fever is like any other sick-

ness. You just have to do something about it. We did just that and caught Hail-Columbia at home when it was learned that we had squandered some more hard cash on another thunder-stick.

The first fine day we had we took the new little Harrington and Richardson, Model-1915, single-barrel fellows out for a test. On this day we used a good make of three-inch shell loaded with number 7½ shot. We worked on clay birds until I could still see them in my sleep that night. It was found that even though the little guns did not fit as well as our put guns, we were able to get on our bird and show results better than we were able to do with the 16, 12 or 20 gauge. This point never was cleared up for me. Long shots just were not made. You might just as well shoot in the other direction for all the good you could do.

It wasn't long until we had our chance to try these guns on game. On this day that I am about to tell about, my pal was using the .410 while I hunted with my 16 double. I didn't do much shooting that day because I was anxious to see the .410 work. I didn't have to wait long for this chance. Within the next half hour the luck changed and I saw the little gun turn over three rabbits one after another. One of these shots was made when I thought the rabbit was just two jumps from the next state. I never expected to see it turn over and stay put.

The next game we saw was an old kettle that some person had left in the woods. The .410 put a load into this at about fifteen yards and not one shot went in. I was using the same load but in 16 gauge and my shots went through both sides. The question on our minds then was, how did that .410 ever stop those three rabbits a half hour before?

Time passed as it always has and always will and I found myself on my way to Florida once again. Packed away in the back of the car, with everything but the kitchen sink, was the little .410. I had made up my mind to try this gun on some other kinds of game aside from clay birds, rabbits and kettles. Once in my old hunting grounds I didn't lose much time unpacking and starting on a hunt.

Within another hour I was face to face with a nice five-foot alligator on the river. Now, for those of you who have never hunted these, I want to say that they are just about like frogs. By that I mean that, once shot they do not float but start to go down at once. For that reason you get as near to them as you can in a boat. The idea is to shoot and then rush your boat to the spot and catch Mr. 'Gator before he goes to the bottom. In some cases the bottom is fifty to seventy-five feet down.

This night, that I speak of, I was within fifteen feet of this 'Gator when I shot. It was a good shot, catching him right between the eyes. At the report of the gun, the water began to boil. Then in a second all was still and as I shot the boat forward as fast as I could, I saw Mr. 'Gator doing the usual thing. Going down. I caught him by one leg and pulled him into the boat dead as a door-nail, as I thought. Once in the boat, he came to and then the fun began. It lasted about twenty minutes until I could get a rope around those jaws. Such splashing around you never did see. At last I gave him one shot in the head from a .44 Colt Special and he took the count for all time.

Upon examination I found that these number six shot had been like so much rain on a duck's back. What they had done was put the 'Gator to sleep for a minute or two until I had him into the boat.

I tried this stunt several more times on alligators, both larger and smaller than the one just mentioned. The result was the same in each case, with the exception that I did not pull them into the boat after the first time.—GEORGE F. RYAN.

On Inconstant Zero. In regard to the Hornet rifle, and its habit of shooting to a different zero each day of the week; this is the exact opposite of my own experience with this rifle.

I am not particularly a greenhorn, having been using rifles for twenty years; and I have owned and discarded many in that time. I have learned to shoot fairly well; and while no expert, can average about 395 over the Dewar Course with scope sights.

I purchased the M-54 Hornet rifle a couple of years ago, with Lyman 438 scope. The 100-yard indoor machine-rest groups showed a 1.3-inch average for 100 shots, the largest group being just over 1.6 inches. This with Winchester soft point, 2350 f.s.

I shot this during the summer of 1933, at chucks, and after getting the rifle to group at 12 o'clock on the 100-yard-target 10 ring, I managed to shoot better than 90% on the chucks at ranges from 75 to 150 yards. Over 150 yards I didn't have so much luck, and I finally concluded that the advertised trajectory was a bit optimistic; later proven to be true. I also was able to hit crows consistently with this outfit; something I had heretofore been unable to accomplish.

During this season, I made no change in the windage adjustment (after once zeroing) and I did not have to alter the elevation either (after zeroing it to best utilize the trajectory).

This past season I bought 500 rounds of the new Super Speed cartridges (2625 f.s.), and found immediately that they shot too high, and so I lowered the elevation 8 clicks, and changed the windage 1 click left. That was nine months ago, and the sights have not been touched. It was only last week that I shot a crow, out of the big hickory tree in my back pasture, fully 125 yards away.

This is the most reliable rifle I have ever had my hands on, which statement doesn't except either my M-54 Snipers .30-'06 or my M-52 heavy-barrel, equipped with Lyman Targetspot.

The rifle is cleaned after each spell of shooting, but even then the first shots will group with the last; always. Now what reason has a rifle for changing its zero? I'd offer the following: Take down, two-piece stock; poor ignition; poor ammunition; loose stock or sights; poorly bedded stock; or locking lugs not square (causing bolt to bear on only a portion of the shell); or the weather. My rifle leaves only the weather to be blamed (and this will only affect the elevation, excluding wind), and it shoots fine.

I took care of the bedding of the stock on my rifle, by sanding all high spots down, and soaking in linseed oil for two days before putting it back on the rifle. Then the forestock screw was dipped in linseed oil, and allowed to get gummy, then screwed home with only the force that could be applied by thumb and forefinger, on one of these small Colts screwdrivers. The oil prevents the screw from coming out, and the sandpapering of the parts that touched the barrel prevents weather and heat from springing the barrel, as the screw is loose enough to be equivalent to being practically absent.

If this does not cure the rifle of its troubles, the shooter had better regard himself with suspicion for it has cured two Hornets that I know of; one being my Dad's.

Most everyone knows, of course, that a poorly-bedded stock ruins any rifle, but they are apt to forget that a tight forearm-screw ruins the bedding, no matter how perfect it might otherwise be.

I have a rifle stocked in such a manner that all who pick it up remark on its balance and lightness. This is a regular Winchester M-54 for the .30-'06, with stock identical to the Winchester M-52 beavertail except it is $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch shorter from trigger to butt, and $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch higher at the comb, for scope use. It weighs 9-lbs. but feels like six.

Another observation I have made, in the



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years of my rifle shooting, is that those who complain most of the zero changing are those who shoot iron sights or those whose scope is not focused for the range shot over. It is always well to remember that a well-built piece of mechanism is usually more reliable than the human using it.—PHILIP P. NEWCOMB.

* * *

Krag Lead Load. I am a handloader and practical shooter, have instructed on ranges of the U. S. Navy for 7 years, and attended the Small Arm School of the Navy rifle team.

I've had some dozen Krag rifles in the past 6 years and rebuilt a great number of them. I have two now in .30-40 caliber and one Krag Hornet. My two Kraggs are: one 24-inch-barrel Sporter, one 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-barrel Sporter. The latter is barreled by E. J. Sweany with an Enfield barrel. He made this chamber tight at my request and short throated so the light and pointed bullet would just start in the rifling. This gun has a cut-down, revamped, military stock, raised-comb and pistol grip and, as I had it built for my wife, a recoil pad was placed on it for maximum load shooting.

Being an apt scholar of J. Bushnell Smith, who is a personal friend of mine, and having such equipment as Pacific tools and dies, Fairbanks scales and a pair of Ideal powder measures, a good supply of powder, and primers, about 1500 new and good .30-40 cases, notwithstanding a number of bullets, I started out to find out something about this chief custom-built gun. My first loads were: 35, 39, 37 gr. Pyro D. G., 150-gr. cupro nickel bullet (10 each); 42, 43, 44 grs. No. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$, 170-gr. .30-30 bullet, boat-tailed and S. P. (10 each).

Shooting prone position at 100 yards, 37 grains Pyro gave a $\frac{1}{8}$ inch group, center to center of bullets. Forty-four grains of No. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ made a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch group, Extreme vertical and $\frac{1}{8}$ Extreme horizontal.

Quite satisfied, I started playing up and down on those two loads and finally settled on: 37.4 grains of Pyro, 150-grain cupro nickel bullet; 44.8 of No. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$, 170-grain boat-tail bullet. This last load was with me on a hunting trip where I was after grey ground squirrels. The scope of my Hornet was injured and as there was no iron sight suitable in my shooting kit, I fell back to the Krag.

I recorded 5 squirrels in 7 shots, all over 100 yards, and two at over 150 yards. A hawk, at 137 paces, fell at the first shot. Gun was sighted at 120 yards. However, this load was somewhat expensive to shoot, so I started to play with reduced loads. I had two bullets of lead-alloy available; No. 3118 115-grain Ideal and the No. 311413, gas-check Ideal of 169 grains.

No. 80 Powder from its minimum to its maximum proved of no satisfaction with that 115-grain bullet, so I tried Unique with very little better results. No better than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch

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groups at 100 yards. So I tried No. 1204. To my surprise I shot 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch groups of five shots, followed by a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch group of 7 shots. I tried varying this load but never improved the accuracy, but found 14.9 grains No. 1204 as accurate and much faster than my first load, which was 13.5 grains of No. 1204.

I've shot over 800 rounds of this load in the last four months and know what it will do on anything in this county of San Diego, from ground squirrels up to grey fox, with that flat-end bullet. Well, it just goes to work, that's all. The alloy mixture, which is fine for anyone who wants a tough bullet, not too hard and still to stand maximum speed with minimum fusing at the base, is 8 pounds pure pig lead and 2 pounds of Linotype metal. I happened on this by accident, but it's a world beater on alloy bullets with plain bases.

A maximum Hornet load won't do the damage at 100 or 150 yards by far. This load (in 1934) cost per 1000 rounds \$6.73. For that price what a lot of vermin shooting I've had. I then devoted my time to the 169-grain, gas-check bullet and found 19.1 grains of 1204 to shoot to the same point of aim at 100 yards. Three groups, out of five, under 1 inch, one over 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches and one 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The first group of 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches was due to an unblacked front sight.

What it will do on game is a different story, and when opportunity gives me bigger game to shoot at I'll know. However, I plan to hollow-point this bullet. I have record of some 60 odd loads I've tried with success in the .30-40 caliber.—HOMER BROWN.

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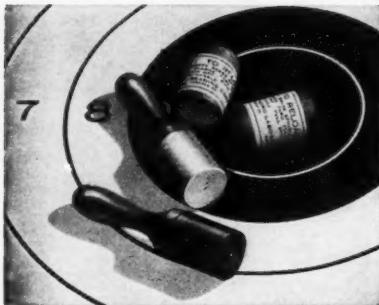
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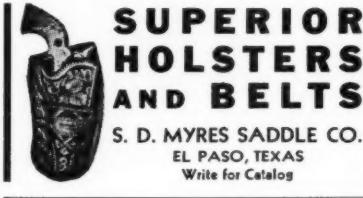
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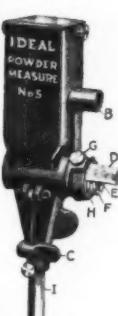
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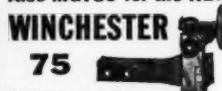
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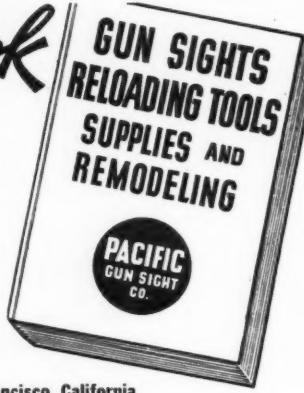
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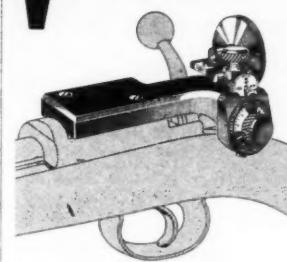
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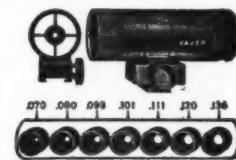
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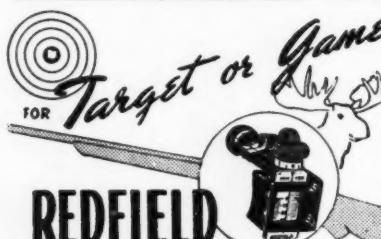




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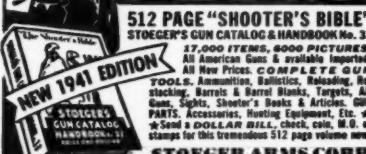
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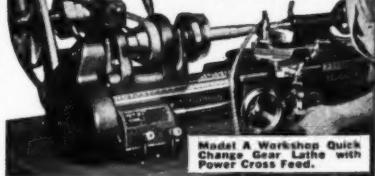
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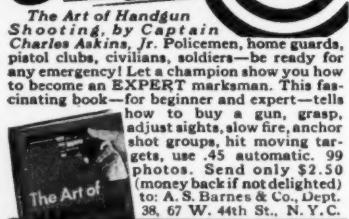


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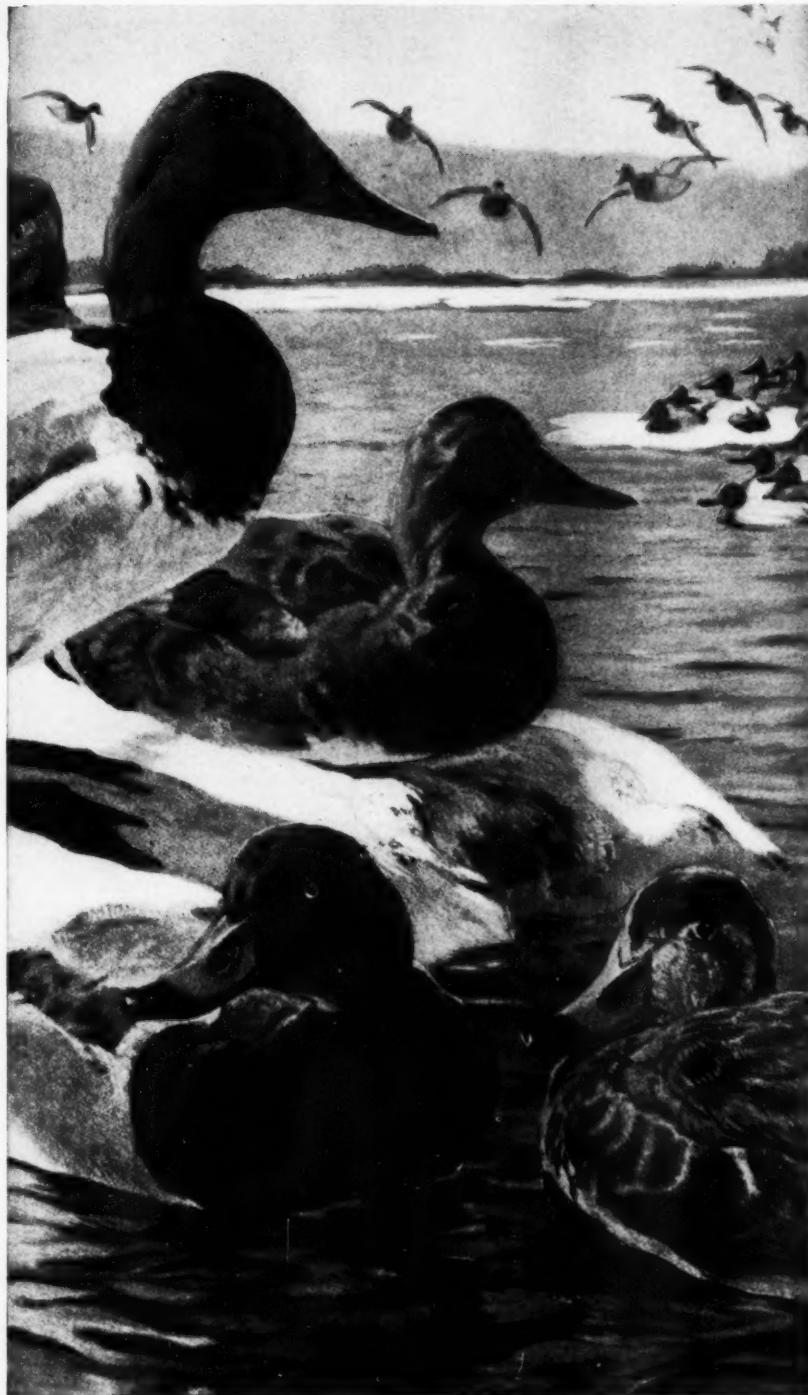
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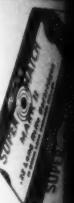


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